Palace firm on pacts; formal talks with MILF 'soon'

STORY BELOW, COLUMN 3

Covered-up Claudia

BAKIT NAKA-KUMOT ANG BRIDE?
BOO! MUKHA KANG MULTO!

SHIMPLING, England—German supermodel Claudia Schiffer was booed by a disappointed crowd on Saturday when she emerged for her English country wedding covered in blankets, which prevented any glimpse of the famous bride.

COVERED-UP/A21

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

WHAT'S INSIDE

- **Purefoods PBA champ** SPORTS / A22
- **New peril hounds GenSan tuna industry** ACROSS / A16
- **Owwa chief hits back at labor secretary** NEWS / A2

e-mail: feedback@inquirer.com.ph Monday, May 27, 2002 ★★ 72 pages / 6 sections / vol.17 / no. 168 P15 website: www.inq7.net

Study finds overbilling by Meralco

By Clarissa S. Batino

MANILA Electric Co., the country's biggest electricity distributor, was found to have been overcharging its customers again, this time by an even bigger amount than that uncovered by the Energy Regulatory Board in 1998.

An independent study submitted to Malacañang found that Meralco had been overcharging its 3.4 million customers in Metro Manila and neighboring provinces by as much as 40.8 centavos per kilowatt-hour.

Instead of filing for a rate increase of P1.12 per kwh in its unbundling petition with the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC), Meralco should instead reduce its rates by 40.8 centavos per kwh, according to the study.

Unbundling refers to itemizing the total monthly electricity bill received by consumers into generation, transmission, distribution, supply, metering and universal charges.

The study has been presented to President Macapagal-Arroyo and Energy Secretary Vincent Perez Jr. and is now in the hands of a few senators, according to sources.

It was conducted to help find relief from high electricity rates arising from the imposition of the purchased power adjustment (PPA), an automatic cost recovery scheme that the National Power Corp. and distribution utilities set to cover fluctuations in fuel prices, power costs and foreign exchange rates.

"It is the hope of those who initiated the study that the new regulator will not only sustain the ERB's decision in 1998 but also adopt new policies that disallow items Meralco had included in its unbundling petition," said a Malacañang source, who asked not to be named.

Based on Meralco's application with the ERC for unbundled rates, the study found that the bulk of the increase being sought by the Lopez-controlled company was an item that the ERB had already disallowed.

In justifying its application for a rate increase, Meralco had calculated a total revenue requirement of P150 billion. But this revenue requirement is based on a return on rate base (RORB) of 17 percent, according to the study.

The study computed Meralco's total revenue requirement to run a profitable business at P121.4 billion on an RORB of 12 percent.

STUDY/A20

'Allegations are inaccurate, grossly unfair'

By Clarissa S. Batino

GROSSLY unfair and inaccurate.

This was the reaction of Manila Electric Co. (Meralco) to allegations that it was again guilty of overcharging its customers.

In a phone interview, Meralco president Jesus Francisco pointed out that the ruling of the Energy Regulatory Board in 1998 that the power distributor had overcharged its customers was overturned by the Court of Appeals.

"What overcharging are they talking about when the CA had sustained our petition and the ERB had elevated this case to the Supreme Court. This is still pending," Francisco said.

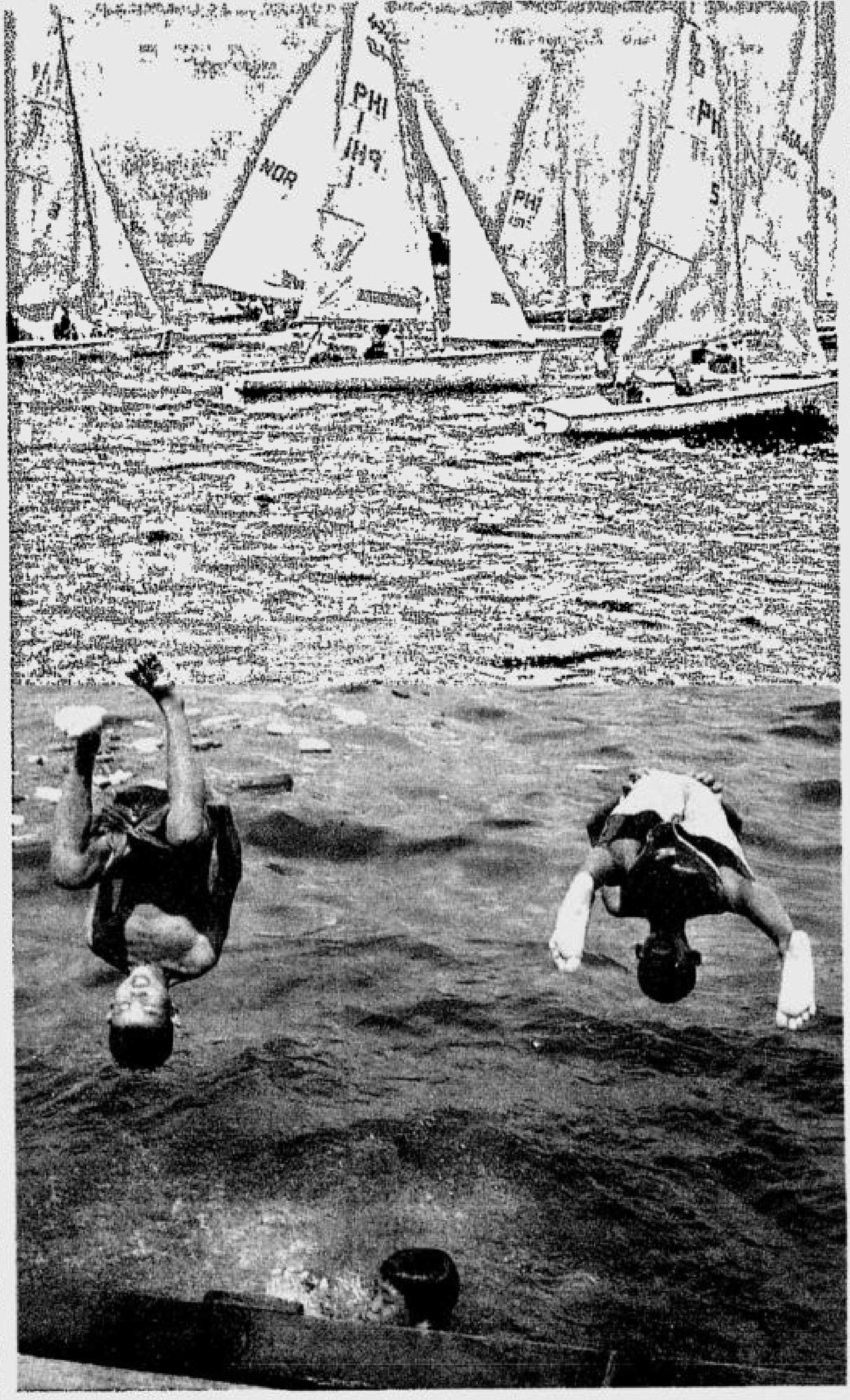
He said the unbundling format came from the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC). As far as Meralco was concerned, he said, it only sought in March 2000 a 30-centavo-per-kwh increase in its basic distribution rate of P3.40 per kwh.

"We are just asking for 30 centavos per kwh, but based on the format prescribed by the ERC, the rate increase that we deserve is higher. Anyway, the thinking of our analysts was that, *hindi naman nila ibibigay yang* P1.12 but since the ERC gave the format, then we followed it strictly," the Meralco president said.

Francisco said it would be impossible for Meralco to reduce its rates by 40 centavos per kwh as what a study presented to Malacañang recommended. ***(See banner story.)***

"There is no basis for us to reduce the

ALLEGATIONS/A20



DOUBLE FLIP Ignoring warnings not to swim in the polluted Manila Bay, boys dive into the water to beat the summer heat as boats prepare for this year's regatta aimed at increasing public awareness of the environment. The government has been taking steps to clean up the historic bay, famed for its breath-taking sunsets, which has become a depository for trash and industrial waste in recent years.

AFP/JOEL NITO

Palace firm on interim pacts; formal talks with MILF 'soon'

By Carlito Pablo

"RENEGOTIATE what?"

Presidential Adviser Norberto Gonzales slammed the door on demands to renegotiate the two "interim agreements" he signed with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) in Malaysia, saying formal peace talks should resume soon.

Gonzales said over the weekend that he saw no need to renegotiate the agreements, noting that the controversial May 6 and 7 accords have paved the way for the resumption of formal peace negotiations.

Gonzales said he would be meeting again soon with MILF vice chair Al Haj Murad to lay the groundwork for formal talks, which will be handled on the government side by chief negotiator Jesus Dureza.

"These agreements are confidence-building measures with the long-term view of helping achieve lasting peace in

PALACE/A20

Muslim cadets join Baguio worshippers

By Vincent Cabreza
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

FORT DEL PILAR, Baguio City—In their gray uniforms, the nine cadets of the Philippine Military Academy stood out from a landscape of worshippers mostly wearing white.

But it wasn't only color that set them off; it was also history.

Last Saturday, for the first time ever, Muslim cadets joined afternoon prayers at the largest community mosque in downtown Baguio.

The moment capped a long process of integration of PMA Muslims into the local Islamic community, a campaign initiated by the Almaarif Educational Center and Col. Muhammad Ben Dolorfino, PMA commandant of cadets.

The integration intends to jumpstart a local campaign against Muslim prejudice, which is still "prevalent among the military's leaders," an Islamic scholar explained to the INQUIRER.

"We would like to remove the negative impressions (about Muslim Filipinos) from the fu-

MUSLIM/A19

Arguments against accords long on conjecture, short on evidence

By Amando Doronila

ANALYSIS

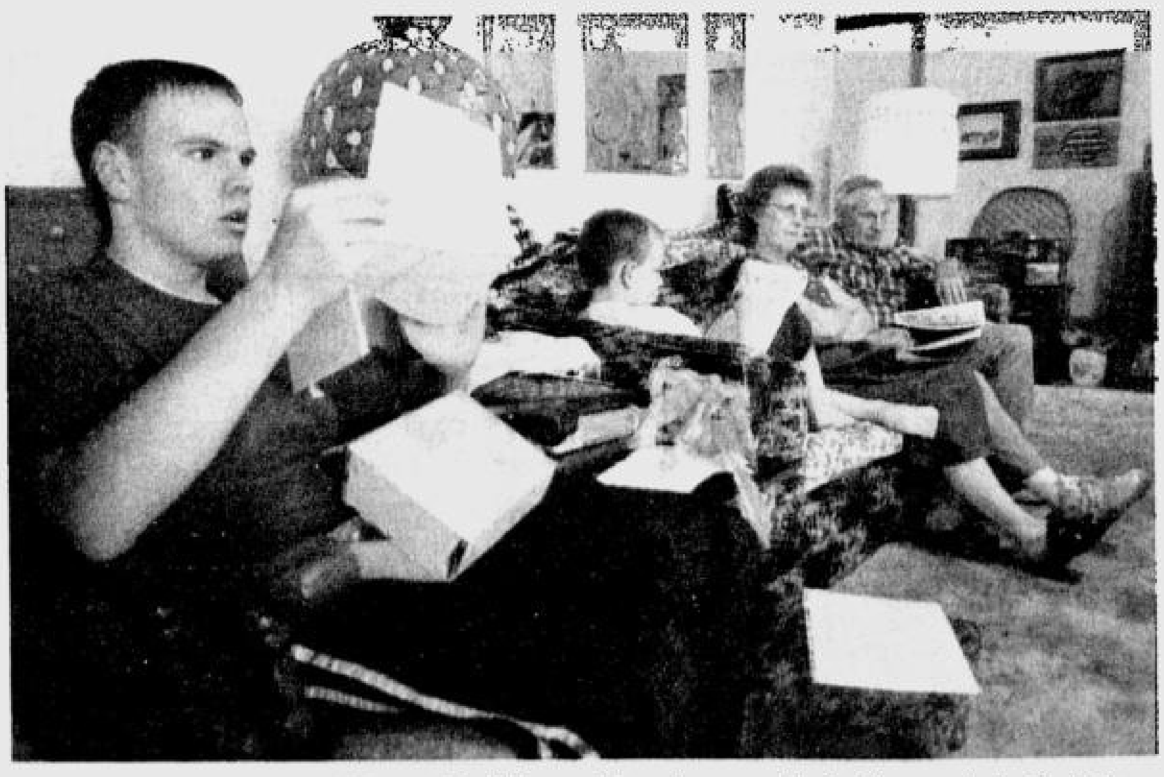
THE CONTROVERSY over the two "interim agreements" signed by the Philippine government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) on May 6 and 7 in Malaysia springs from the contradictory interpretation of two key issues.

The first stems from the word "reparations," which the government pledged to extend to evacuees returning to rebuild their property in the conflict zones of the "all-out war" of 2000 in central Mindanao. Absolutely nothing is mentioned in the "implementing guidelines on the humanitarian, rehabilitation and development aspects of the RP-MILF Tripoli peace agreement of 2001" that reparations would be given to the MILF.

Opponents of the agreements have read their fears and written their own words into the agreements, interpreting "reparations" as payment of war damages by the victors (the Philippine government) to the defeated (the MILF, whose 45 camps were captured by the military). As we shall see, this argument is fatally flawed.

The other contentious phrase is "MILF Areas/Communities." This is used in the "joint communiqué," which is about joint RP-MILF action to isolate and interdict criminal and kid-

ARGUMENTS/A6



JESS Burnham, one of three children of the kidnapped American couple in Basilan, reads a letter in the living room with his grandparents in Wichita, Kansas.

AP

US power, prayers no help to Burnhams

THE ELITE troops and the spy planes of the world's most powerful military have not helped and neither, it seems, have prayers.

US hostages Martin and Gracia Burnham, their bodies ravaged by hunger and forced marches through the jungles of Basilan, begin today their second year as captives of the Abu Sayyaf.

Nobody knows when the ordeal for the missionary couple from Wichita, Kansas, will end in the hands of the Moro bandits.

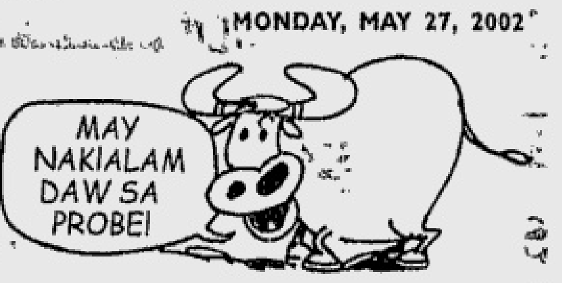
"With the number of Philippine and US military troops on the ground, and everything that is available to them, it's hard to understand why we're still hearing that they don't know where they are," Robert Mycel, vice chair of the New Tribes Mission, to which the Burnhams belong, told Reuters.

Martin, 42, and Gracia, 43, have been the longest-held foreign captives in the Philippines since Moro separatists began seizing hostages in the 1970s to press for the establishment of an Islamic state in Mindanao.

While some have been killed, including an American seized with the Burnhams, most hostages have been released after the payment of ransom.

"It's like losing a tiny tack in the backyard," said Brig. Gen.

US/A20


MAY NAKIALAM DAW SA PROBE!

OWWA chief hits back at Sto. Tomas

By Blanche S. Rivera

IS THE WOMAN on top of the Department of Labor and Employment also on top of the "independent" investigation of the alleged fund misuse by the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (Owwa)?

Owwa chief Wilhelm Soriano yesterday accused Patricia Sto. Tomas of manipulating the probe into his alleged misuse of some P500 million in Owwa welfare fund. He said the labor chief was trying to ease him out.

Soriano said Sto. Tomas, without informing him, had changed the composition of the investigating body to add two more officials, Labor Assistant Secretary Benedicto Bitonio and legal affairs director Ramon Gatchalian.

The two were not part of the team that started the probe in April 2001, a month after Soriano assumed office.

Sto. Tomas has openly objected to the appointment of Soriano, who first served as Owwa head during the Ramos administration.

The probe ended Thursday night. The investigators ruled that the investment of some P500 million in welfare fund was "irregular" because it did not pass through the Owwa board of trustees.

Labor Undersecretary Manuel Imson presented the 16-page report in a press briefing.

The report said the disposal of the welfare fund by Soriano during his first term with the Owwa was "against the clear mandates" of the board of trustees, which has the sole authority "to approve programs/projects as well as the organizational structure of the fund."

In the absence of such an approval, the report said, the administrators—Soriano, as well as David Corpin (February to March 1995) and Eli Gardiner (1998 to 2001)—"clearly exceeded their authority" when they invested in the Smokey Mountain Project Participation Certificates (SMPPCs), a flagship project of the Ramos administration.

Soriano said the report "maliciously failed to mention" two memorandums of instruction issued in 1979 by then Labor Minister Blas Ople, delegating authority to the administrator to decide when and where to invest the Owwa fund.

The memorandums were revoked by the Owwa board headed by Sto. Tomas only in March 2002, Soriano said, to use as a ground against him.

He also pointed out that the fact-finding body initially did not see anything wrong with the P500-million investment.

"The funds are intact," Soriano said. "All they're questioning is why there was no approval by the board. They're just letting Sto. Tomas have her way (saying the investment was irregular)."

Asked why he thought the labor chief was after him, Soriano said, "What other motive could she have but to replace me?"

The INQUIRER failed to reach Sto. Tomas, who is in Saudi Arabia on an official trip. She has denied that the investigation was a personal attack against Soriano.

The Presidential Anti-Graft Commission is set to call Corpin and Gardiner to explain their role in the investments, now totaling P1.2 billion due to interests.

Cardeño to sue 3 PNP generals

By TJ Burgonio

SUPT. Rafael Cardeño, who has been charged in connection with the murder of government informant Baron Cervantes, is suing Director General Leandro Mendoza and two other police generals for ordering an "illegal manhunt" against him.

Cardeño's lawyer, Homobono Adaza, said charges of grave threats and coercion would be filed today against the officials before the Office of the Ombudsman for ordering the hunt without any warrant for his client's arrest.

Asked about the officials' earlier statement that they had asked for "a mere accounting" and not a manhunt, Adaza said, "They should talk straight; this is a democracy."

He said the officials would also be sued for violation of the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act, and the Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards.

By ordering a manhunt without a warrant of arrest and due process, Adaza said, the officials committed acts prejudicial to the interest of the accused, and therefore showed that they were "not professionals."

Senior Supt. Leonardo Espina, PNP spokesperson, earlier said the filing of such charges was Cardeño's prerogative.

Apart from Mendoza, the respondents are Deputy Director General Hermogenes Ebdane of the National Anti-Crime Commission Anti-KFR Task Force, and Chief Supt. Jose Gutierrez of the Southern Police District.

Cardeño, founding chair of the Young Officers' Union, was charged with murder last Friday along with seven others, including six who have reportedly admitted direct participation in the killing.

Cervantes was gunned down Dec. 31, 2001 in Las Piñas City.

Three of the co-accused—the alleged gunman, ex-Marine Sgt. Joseph Mostrales, and cohorts Jaime Centeno and Erlindo Torres—executed affidavits tagging Cardeño as the mastermind. All three are in police custody.

While he had repeatedly denied involvement in the crime, Cardeño will face the charges during the preliminary investigation and before the court, Adaza said.

The manhunt was ordered after Mostrales pointed at Cardeño. His lawyers questioned the order and petitioned the Quezon City regional trial court to stop its implementation.

After court granted the petition last Thursday, police officials backtracked, saying they were merely accounting for Cardeño, who had reportedly been Awol (Absent Without Leave).

COPYSTAR OFFICE AUTOMATION
GET SHREDDER FOR EVERY PURCHASE OF COPIER
introducing CLEAR POWDER COPIER
RICOH FT 3320 for only P16,000
RICOH FT 3313/ FT 3213 P22,000
REDUCER / ENLARGER
ALSO AVAILABLE: THERMAL BINDER
LAMINATOR P3,800 SHREDDER P2,200 RING BINDER P8,000
Other copiers also available: FT 3313, FT 4018, FT 4418 FT 4421, FT 4220, FT 4222
SALES: 899-7101 up to 04 / 899-7045 • 899-7075 to 76 • 899-7023
MAIN OFFICE: COPYSTAR Bldg. 948 J. P. Rizal Ave., near corner Makati Ave., Makati City
Fax: 895-7802 • CEBU OFFICE: 178 Sanslangko St., Cebu City ☎ 255-0504 • 256-3368 to 69
PAMPANGA: McArthur Hi-way, Dolores San. Fdo., Pampanga ☎ 963-5055 to 59 • Fax: 963-5059

Improve Your BUSINESS.. Upgrade Your PHONE!
Prices from P 2,000 up to P 3,800
WELCOME DEALERS
Also Available PABX 4-Line Interphone 2-Way Radio
Call for FREE DEMO!
EverTel
EVERTEL PHILS., CORP.
Tel. #: 715-8114 • 715-8141
715-7978 • Fax #: 715-8107
Bacolod (branch) 034-4332563
http://www.evertel.biz

INCA
SHAPING IDEAS INTO PLASTICS
EL NIÑO WATER TANK SALE
2000 L 1500 L 1000 L 700 L 370L
INCA PLASTICS PHILIPPINES INC.
Tel. no.: 809-2776/809-2745/809-2730
Fax no.: 809-1108
website: http://www.inca.cjb.net
Provincial Toll Free: 1-800-1888-4622
HOW TO GET TO INCA
Bldg. 4 Philcrest Compound Km. 23 West Service Road, Cupang, Muntinlupa City
PROMO PERIOD MAY 27- JUNE 8, 2002

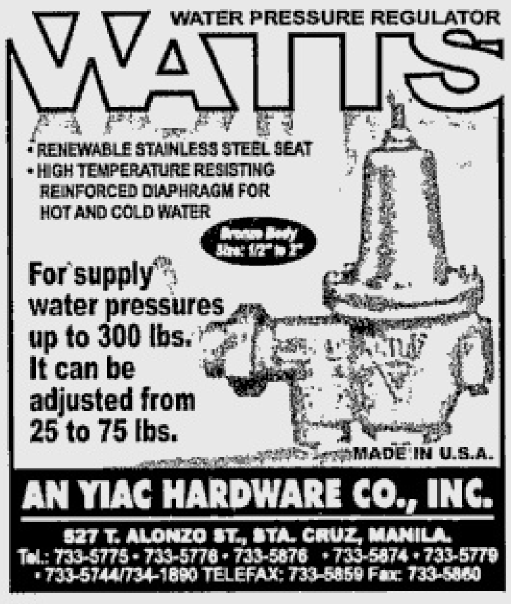
SIZE	HT.	DIA	LIST	Factory Direct Price
370L	33.5"	30"	P4,380	P3,550
700L	41"	37.5"	P6,050	P4,850
1000L	54.75"	39.75"	P8,789	P7,050
1500L	83.25"	39.75"	P11,770	P9,450
2000L	102"	39.75"	P13,750	P11,000

WE ALSO SELL TRASHBINS, DRUMS, BEDLINERS, TRAYS, CRATES, ROAD BARRIERS & CONES.
RULES:
- CASH ONLY FOR PICK UP AT FACTORY
- DELIVERY AVAILABLE AT P600.00 WITHIN METRO MANILA
- TANK COLOR BLUE

OUR LOWEST PRICE EVER ON GENUINE INCA WATER TANKS
- Food Grade Polyethylene material
- Won't rust, break, crack or chip
- Better than stainless steel
- FDA approved for safe, clean storage of water
- Ultra Violet Stabilized for sun protection

Oel's make impressions
Fresh from the tree Fresh from the lens
Spot the difference between two realities.
Panasonic LCD Projector
BEST SELLER
Introducing the latest technology that made the synthesis between mobility and style possible. It's packed with all the smart features of an LCD projector yet uncompromising to lightness and performance. An ultra-compact body that makes high resolution and brightness a wonder for something so small yet so powerful. Ideal in making impressions. Perfect for presentation.
PT-LC50E
700 ANSI lumens
With the brightness of 700 ANSI Lumens, that's equivalent to another brand's 1000 ANSI Lumens...only crispier.
cosmotech Head Office: #19 Binay cor., Finlandia Sts., Makati City, Philippines
Tel. Nos.: (0632) 894-3678, 889-4734, 843-4527 e-mail: cosmotc@csl.com.ph

RICOH COPIERS
We transact 24 Hours/Day From Monday To Sunday
Liquid Type P11,500 Only
Powder Type P15,000 Only
Bond Paper P65/rim Dispersant P42/ltr. U.S. SP. Toner P260/ltr.
KAI General Mdse. 716-6110 • 780-0302 • 780-0304
In front of PUP Engineering & Architecture Bldg. (GC-1 Bldg 3 GSIS Metrohomes, Pureza, Sta. Mesa, Manila
LUZON:
BAGUIO (074) 3041562 / (916) 4223811
TARLAC (045) 9000409 / (0910) 4656874
SAN FERNANDO (LA UNION) (0919) 3353314
DAET (054) 7215829
NAGA (054) 4720404
IRIGA (054) 6552024
LEGASPI (052) 8203345
MASBATE (056) 3332703
VISAYAS:
CEBU (032) 4134140 / (0917) 6062309
ILOILO (033) [illegible]
TACLOBAN (053) 3253441 / (0919) 5518273
CATBALOGAN (055) 2512206
CALBAYOG (055) 2093322
MINDANAO:
DAVAO (082) 2228824 / (0917) 7324179
GEN. SANTOS (083) 3020743
CAGAYAN DE ORO (088) 2513850 / (0919) 2403866
ILIGAN (063) 2215402
PAGADIAN (062) 2144561
COTABATO (064) 4216230 / (0919) 4247220


WATER PRESSURE REGULATOR
WATTS
- RENEWABLE STAINLESS STEEL SEAT
- HIGH TEMPERATURE RESISTING REINFORCED DIAPHRAGM FOR HOT AND COLD WATER
Bronze Body Size: 1/2" to 2"
For supply water pressures up to 300 lbs. It can be adjusted from 25 to 75 lbs.
MADE IN U.S.A.
AN YIAC HARDWARE CO., INC.
527 T. ALONZO ST., STA. CRUZ, MANILA.
Tel.: 733-5775 • 733-5778 • 733-5876 • 733-5874 • 733-5779 • 733-5744/734-1890 TELEFAX: 733-5859 Fax: 733-5860

Assorted Medicine for Sale
- Up to 70% off!!!
- With complete documentation available
- Bulk or small purchases
Please contact: Beth
tel. [63-2] 631-9744 / 637-2727
fax. [63-2] 636-0677

HONGKONG $253
SINGAPORE $315
BANGKOK $255
STAR CRUISES The First Global Cruise Line
TICKET ONLY:

	US$		US$		US$
HONGKONG	211	KUALA	398	HONOLULU	809
BANGKOK	225	TAIPEI	318	LAX / SFO	830
SINGAPORE	236	XIAMEN	261	NEW YORK	910
OSAKA	383	MACAU	238	VANCOUVER	866
TOKYO	398	JAKARTA	366	SYDNEY	625
SEOUL	376	SAIGON	265	EUROPE	738

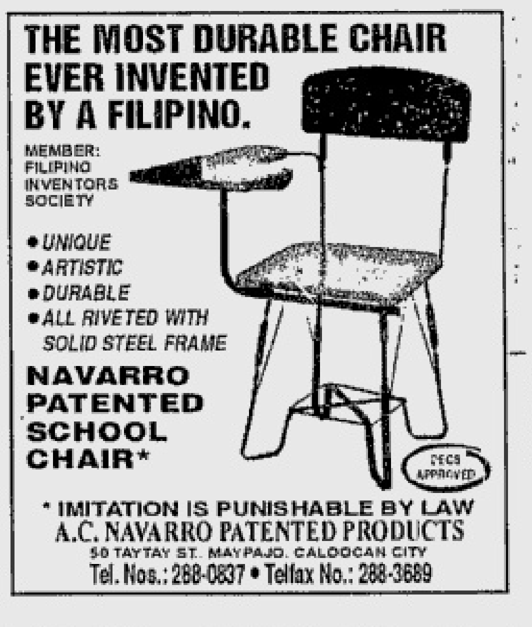
SEE YOUR TRAVEL AGENT OR CALL:
MAGELLAN WORLD TRAVEL, INC. PTAA
TELS:522-4321 * 521-9381 *526-5652 to 53 *522-4809 to11
Fax# 521-0190 * 526-5658

BEST VALUE TOUR PACKAGES
HONGKONG $188 Panda $210 Ramada $248 HIGM $258 MCP/ Gateway
w/ FREE Dimsum Lunch and Shenzhen Tour
+ CHINA 7 Days from $385
HKG/BANGKOK 6D $388
HKG/SHENZHEN/BKK 7D $418
HKG/SINGAPORE 7D $435
HKG/SHENZHEN/SIN 7D $475
HKG/MACAU/SHENZHEN/SIN 7D $502
HKG/MACAU/SHENZHEN/BKK 7D $440
HKG/MACAU/SHENZHEN/BKK/SIN 10D $560
HKG/BANGKOK/SINGAPORE 10D $495
7 COUNTRIES 11D $605
BANGKOK $245 4D via THAI
+3N Extn to HongKong $422
+3N Extn to Singapore $425
+3N Extn to Kuala Lumpur $440
+2N Extn to Saigon $440
SINGAPORE 3D $293 via Singapore Airlines Garden Hotel
2N Ext Bintan Island ADD $98
3N Ext Kuala Lumpur ADD $248
2N Ext Marco Polo Saigon Daytours ADD $278
+ $15 Johore Bahru, Malaysia
+ $45 Malacca Tour, Malaysia
+ $30 Batum Island, Indonesia
MACAU 4D $228
KUALA Swiss Inn 3D $472
SEOUL 3D $435
AUSTRALIA 4D $599
Star Cruise
$468 LEO (Ex-HKG) $561 VIRGO (Ex-SIN)
BUDGET AIRFARES

	OW	RT		OW	RT		OW	RT
Hongkong	110	175	K. Lumpur	235	390	Los Angeles	435	755
Macau	90	160	Jakarta	320	350	New York	510	900
Bangkok	160	200	Seoul	175	350	Vancouver	470	760
Singapore	190	225	Saigon	245	265	Toronto	510	890
Tokyo	210	385	Chicago	515	847	Australia	345	440
Osaka	265	375	Honolulu	440	798	Europe	395	725

TRANSNATIONAL TRAVEL & TOURS, INC.
MAKATI 753-3388 / 3005 / 1121 / 817-1566 / 1571 • 894-0974
Fax:753-5588 • E-mail: tnl_anee@abacus.com.ph
Text your queries to 0917-5351581 / 791-8236
Mandaluyong: 747-1284 • 531-0212 / Fax 532-5715

Best Line of Security & Telephone Systems at Popular Prices!
CCTV & PABX SYSTEM
BRAND NEW NTT KEY PHONE P2,800
Panasonic PROMO PABX MCU 308 P14,500 Brand New System
Also Available NTT MCU Reconditioned P3,000
B&W DOME CAMERA P3,800
CCTV P15,000 PACKAGE
MYTHOS (FROM KOREA)
LNS LINK NETWORK SERVICES
532-2008 / 532-2019
718-2233 FAX:532-2015
www.ntt-com.com


THE MOST DURABLE CHAIR EVER INVENTED BY A FILIPINO.
MEMBER: FILIPINO INVENTORS SOCIETY
- UNIQUE
- ARTISTIC
- DURABLE
- ALL RIVETED WITH SOLID STEEL FRAME
NAVARRO PATENTED SCHOOL CHAIR*
DECS APPROVED
* IMITATION IS PUNISHABLE BY LAW
A.C. NAVARRO PATENTED PRODUCTS
50 TAYTAY ST., MAYPAJO, CALOOCAN CITY
Tel. Nos.: 288-0837 • Telfax No.: 288-3689

4D HONGKONG Package via Cebu Pacific $198 via PAL $264
4D Bangkok Package $298
4D Singapore Package $338
7D Bangkok/Pattaya Singapore/ Malaysia/Indonesia $538
5D Canton/ Shenzhen/ Hongkong $288
6D Macau/Zhuhai/ Shenzhen/Hkg $298
6D Macau/Zhuhai/ Beijing/ Shenzhen $418
7D Shanghai/ Beijing/ Suzhou (PAL) $810
10D Canton/Beijing/ Shanghai Hangzhou/ Shenzhen/Hongkong $568
10D Beijing / Xian / Guilin $658
10D Three Gorges Yangzi River Cruise - World's Super Dam Site $828

PROMO FARES TO:

Hong Kong	$170
Bangkok	239
Singapore	245
Tokyo	395
Osaka	395
Seoul	370
Sydney	$625
Los Angeles	830
San Francisco	830
New York	910
Vancouver	830
Europe	780

UNION TRAVEL & TOURS
525-3034 or 45
524-8609 or 10
524-3943 or 44
525-3039
E-mail uniontours@easiem.com.ph
PTAA TA-328

Collapsible Tents
• CUSTOM SIZES AVAILABLE • HEAVY DUTY TARPAULINE • G.I. LIGHT WEIGHT
TYPE A: 11 X 17 ft P 8,500.00; 8.6 X 17 ft P7,000.00
TYPE C: 10 X 10 ft P 5,500.00; 8 X 8 ft. P4,500.00; 6 X 6 ft P3,500.00
TYPE B: 8.6 x 17 ft P 8,300.00
TYPE D: 13 x 6.5 ft P 4,200.00
BEACH & GARDEN TENTS
PARTY TABLES & CHAIRS FOR RENT
USES: • OPEN GARAGE • BEACHES • OUTDOOR PARTIES
COLORS AVAILABLE: White • Gray • Blue • Green
•Tents can be assembled by 2 people in 15 minutes • No tools required.
RENTAL PER DAY
11 x 17 ft. - P 1,200.00
10 x 10 ft. - P 850.00
triplex AUTO DETAILING & TRADING SALES & RENTALS
28 KJ cor. K6 St. Kamias Rd. Q.C. • Tel.: 928-1466 • Telefax: 929-5603

LAFAYETTE PHARMACEUTICAL LABORATORIES, INC.
" Quality Is our Best Policy"
QUALITY GENERICS AT VERY COMPETITIVE PRICES
We Welcome Distributors, Wholesalers and Retailers Nationwide
FOR INQUIRIES PLS. CALL
LAFAYETTE PHARMACEUTICALS
#132 13th Avenue Cubao, Q.C.
Tel.No.: 437-5139 / 913-3724
911 - 7292 / Telefax: 913-3723

WE ACCEPT JOB ORDER OF ANY DESIGN INCLUDING CUTTING AND BENDING JOBS.
WE PROVIDE STATE OF THE ART OFFICE PARTITION AND FURNITURE CABINETS, LOCKERS, COMMON DESKS, EXECUTIVE DESKS, COMPUTER TABLES, CONFERENCE TABLES, CHAIRS, OPEN SHELVES, ETC
MODULAR METAL PHILIPPINES INC.
06 East Drive St., Parang, Marikina City
TEL NO. 948-7729 to 30 • 475-2542 TELEFAX NO [illegible]
"OUR EXPORT QUALITY FOR HOME AND OFFICE"

POEA gets SC nod to set strict recruitment rules

By Blanche S. Rivera

THE SUPREME Court has given the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) the go-signal to implement stricter rules governing the recruitment industry.

The new rules took effect Friday after being postponed for three months due to a long and tedious battle in court between the POEA and recruiters.

The high tribunal issued a temporary restraining order against the ruling of Quezon City Judge Lucas Bersamin, who enjoined the POEA from exercising its regulatory functions over the recruitment industry.

In a decision penned by Association Justice Vicente Mendoza, the Supreme Court allowed the POEA to rule on cases of alleged violations by recruiters and to regulate the deployment of overseas Filipino workers.

It also authorized the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority, as the sole agency, to handle the training, assessment and certification of overseas performing artists.

The new rules raised the capitalization requirement of recruitment firms from P1 million to P2 million, the escrow account from P100,000 to P1 million, and the penalties for erring firms from P10,000 to P20,000 for the first offense.

Recruiters found to have overcharged the OFWs will be sanctioned with the cancellation of their licenses. Recruiters are allowed only to take a month's salary, according to the new rules.

"There are 1,300 agencies," Labor Undersecretary Manuel Imson said when asked if the recruiters would close shop and jeopardize the deployment of the OFWs.

The multi-tasking phone for multi-faceted offices

store shop
your Lifestyle company

The Smith Corona Work Ready TelAssistant.
Available at all Storeshop branches.
For more information please call: 372-4484

POSITIVE RESULT w/in 7 DAYS!

CONSTIPATED?
A tablespoon of C-Lium© Fibre daily will eliminate constipation and make your bowel movement regular.

C-Lium©
FIBRE
100% NATURAL & ORGANIC

FOR MORE INFO, CALL: Garsworth Marketing Inc.
524-6549 • 524-8146 • fax.521-8311

SPECIAL PACKAGES PROMO

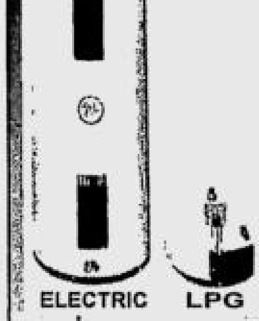
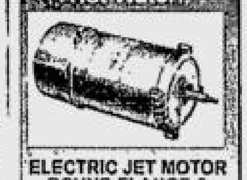
HONG KONG $267 $258 $245
BANGKOK $245 $240 $255
KUALA $ 479
SINGAPORE $317 $327 $322
SAIGON $ 312

BUDGET FARES

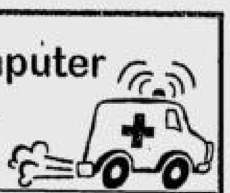
HONGKONG	$ 215	FUKUOKA	$ 435
BANGKOK	$ 220	AUSTRALIA	$ 625
SINGAPORE	$ 245	NEW YORK	$ 910
VANCOUVER	$ 780	NAGOYA	$ 440
OSAKA	$ 380	TAIPEI	$ 315
TOKYO	$ 395	SEOUL	$ 390
LAX/ SFO	$ 830	TORONTO	$ 970

SINGAPORE
+ DAYTRIP MALAYSIA
+ DAYTRIP INDONESIA $ 362
SINGAPORE (2NITES)
KUALA LUMPUR (2 NITES) $ 402
OVER LAND TOURS

SANS TRAVEL & TOURS
TEL.#:438.8227/439.5749/439.5769/913.9508/913.9560
CELL 0917-8416601 0917-4510263 0917-4743362
E-MAIL:sans_trvl@pacific.net.ph URDANETA:075.5683585

Don't BE A COLD TURKEY!
BRRRR
RELAX IN A HOT BATH WITH AMERICA'S PREFERRED CHOICE!
A.O. SMITH
Invented Glass Lined Tank By Fusing Glass to Metal In 1600°F+ Oven for a Long Lasting Protection Against Corrosive Hot Water!
ELECTRIC LPG
FOR COMMERCIAL MODEL PLEASE CALL!!!
ELECTRIC JET MOTOR ROUND FLANGE & SQUARE FLANGE FOR REPLACEMENT OF US JET MOTORS OR OEM APPLICATION
Authorized Distributor
amici AMICI MERCANTILE INC.
86 MAYON ST., QUEZON CITY
TELS. NO. 740-6675 • 740-6676 FAX NO. 740-6677



We fix all computer problems!
Expert in VIRUS Removal
PCMed TECHNICIANS
CALL OUR HOTLINE 303-8888
☑ ON-SITE ☑ FAST ☑ EXPERIENCED ☑ GUARANTEED ☑ AFFORDABLE

BAGUIO TOWNHOMES
"OWN A VACATION HOME IN THIS FIRST CLASS, YET AFFORDABLE SUBDIVISION WITH BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE & FAMOUS CELEBRITIES AS YOUR NEXT-DOOR NEIGHBORS"
REGAL - LEXBER HOMES
DEVELOPMENT PERMIT NO. 08-99-001 LICENSE NO. 00087
EASY PAYMENT SCHEMES UP TO 4 YRS. TO PAY AT NO INTEREST
FOR AS LOW AS P15,800.00 MONTHLY AMORTIZATION
FOR INQUIRIES PLS CALL LEXBER Realty Mgt. & Mktg.
3723206, 3742584, 4108367 TO 69, 3719702 TO 04
WEBSITE: www.lexber.com EMAIL: alexis@lexber.com

We're SHOWERING you with LOW PRICES!

Int'l Packages		(in USD)	Airfare Only	(in USD)
Hongkong	(4D/3N)	290.00	SFO/ LAX	900.00
Singapore	(4D/3N)	345.00	New York	1,000.00
Bangkok	(4D/3N)	300.00	Australia	650.00

Domestic Packages	(in PHP)
Boracay	6,945.00
Palawan	7,258.00
Cebu	6,058.00
Puerto Galera	2,450.00

WE'VE GOT OTHER TOUR PACKAGES & PROMO FARES FOR YOU. SO DON'T THINK, GIVE US A CALL NOW!

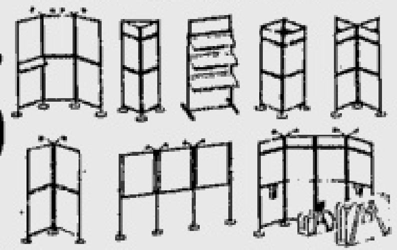
KENSTAR Travel Corporation
There's only one name for your travel needs.
Kenstar Bldg. 511 Alonzo St. Malate, Manila, 524 1211 to 14
kenstar@pacific.net.ph/www.kenstartravel.com

BEST QUALITY, BUDGET FRIENDLY
Water Refilling Equipment Package
Now Available for as Low as
P198,000.00

INQUIRE NOW!
- SM Megamall 5/F Bldg. A Tel. #: 633-2510 / 20
- SM City Fairview UGF Tel. # 4176622 / 4186024
- SM Southmall UGF Tel. #: 806-9393
- SM City Bacoor Tel. #: (046) 970-6168
- SM City Cebu LGF Tel. #: (032) 233-0252
- MC Homes Makati Tel. #: 893-3070 Loc 19
- MC Homes Ortigas Tel. #: 638-5201

Head Office:
WaterCare Centre 3933 L. Roces
Corner Santol St., Sampaloc, Manila
Tel. #: 716-6998 / 716-8078
Fax #: (632) 716-0903
Email: watrcare@i-next.net

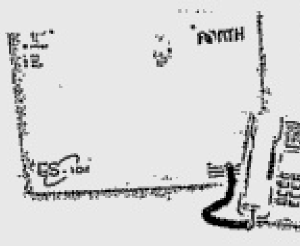
At Your Service!
WaterCare®
Our Name, Your Guarantee!
A Member of: IBWA



WE SELL / RENT
EXHIBIT & PROMO SYSTEMS
MADE IN SWEDEN
TRANSAD ADVERTISING INC.
1015 Zobel Roxas St., Singalong, Manila
Tels: 522-7644 / 400-9987 Tel/Fax: 831-4374

Affordable PABX THAT WORKS WONDERS!
Only P9,500
With smart features:
✓ Call Transfer
✓ Intercom
✓ Up to 3 Lines & 8 Locals
✓ On-hold Music
✓ NDD / IDD Restriction
✓ Other models (up to 128 locals) available
1-YEAR FULL WARRANTY
Ideal for offices, law firms, travel agencies, hotels, etc.
INFINITE Systems-Technology Corp.
Call Now! 892-9073 to 75

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY
Be a lessor instead of a lessee.
This is a chance of a life time to own a 3-storey commercial building in the heart of Tomas Morato Ave.
Built in 1999, the building is presently tenanted and income is assured.
The property is on a long-term lease until 2009.
Excellent business potential
For inquiries call : 723-4230, 0917-7019744/ 0917-8946426



Mini PABX for Home and Office Use
All Brand New and Very Affordable!!!
FORTH ES-308
MAIN FEATURES:
- 3 CO. and 8 Locals
- built-in Intercom w/ Conference Call
- with built-in Auto Attendant (DISA)
- auto Day/Night mode
- can use any regular telephone, wireless phone, fax or internet*

*single-line telephones not included

ONLY P12,000* PER SYSTEM
ANOTHER SOGO SYSTEMS INNOVATION
CERT.No. Q10649
SOGO International Inc
538 Hen. Lacuna cor. Zamora Sts., Bangkal, Makati City
Tel. Nos.: (632) 889-0873 to 76 • Fax No.: (632) 816-2204
E-mail: sogo@pacific.net.ph • Website: www.sogo.com.ph
15 YEARS 2002 OF QUALITY PRODUCTS & SERVICES

You CAN Get A Slimmer Shape
So What's YOUR Excuse For Staying Fat?

STOP MAKING EXCUSES. Don't let your age and lifestyle get in the way of being slim. At Marie-France, you'll lose extra pounds and reduce inches of fat effectively and effortlessly without sacrificing too much of your time, energy, and health. You'll get real weight-loss results with our non-invasive and relaxing slimming programme. You won't have to strain yourself ever again to achieve a shapelier figure!

Stay slim and feel healthier.
Call Marie-France now!

Get 2 FREE PLASTI-DERMI TREATMENTS upon enrollment from May 27-31, 2002

Uncover Your Curves
Marie France Bodyline International®

NEW LOCATION

MAKATI	ORTIGAS	QUEZON CITY	BINONDO	ALABANG	SHAW	CONGRESSIONAL	PAMPANGA	CEBU
816-1262	687-1216	372-6635	242-2199	809-9619	534-5898	920-8021	961-2981/91	233-7637
815-2052	687-1218	372-6636	243-8230	850-4574	534-5877	920-8047	860-6921/22	233-7639
819-3340	638-3028	410-3723 • 410-3724	242-3299 • 242-2399	842-4633 • 842-6887	717-0071 • 717-0072	920-7675		233-7641

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2004 Series of 2002

NO EXERCISE MACHINES • NO WORKOUT CLASSES • NO PILLS OR INJECTIONS • NO HUNGER PAINS • NO MEDICATIONS • NO SURGERY

Aurora now part of Central Luzon

By Jun Malig
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO, Pampanga--President Macapagal-Arroyo has issued an executive order transferring Aurora province in Southern Tagalog to the jurisdiction of Central Luzon.

Ricardo Saludo, Cabinet secretary of the Presidential Management Staff, announced this in a media briefing after the fourth Regional Development Cabinet meeting here on Saturday.

Saludo said Ms Macapagal decided to make Aurora part of Central Luzon after consulting with Southern Tagalog officials in Batangas City last month.

"The transfer of Aurora to Region 3 (Central Luzon) was raised by the President herself in Batangas City last month during a regional development meeting similar to this one. She acted on this issue today by issuing an executive order transferring Aurora to Region 3," he said, without citing the EO's number.

Saludo said making Aurora part of Central Luzon "will be beneficial both to Aurora and Region 3." He said the province is more accessible from the provinces of Central Luzon, particularly Bulacan and Nueva Ecija.

Baler, the capital town of Aurora, is about 140 km from Cabanatuan City, but the trip would take at least five hours due to rugged mountain roads.

After the closed-door regional development meeting, Ms Macapagal distributed 100 scholarship certificates to 100 schoolchildren and about 2,000 PhilHealth cards to indigent families in this city.

She also donated P100,000 to the Self-Employment Assistance-Kabuhayan project being implemented by the Department of Social Welfare and Development in Barangay Baliti here.

Reporters were not allowed to cover the meeting where infrastructure and related projects in various parts of Central Luzon were discussed. But after the meeting, Malacañang staff members distributed a government accomplishment report to reporters.

Among the accomplishments cited are the government housing assistance to homeowners groups and cooperatives in Bataan, Tarlac, Bulacan and Pampanga and the deployment of 137 rolling stores in different parts of Central Luzon.

Also mentioned were the stocking of low-cost imported medicines in five government hospitals in the region, the distribution of 58,337 PhilHealth insurance to poor families, generation of 77,000 jobs in the agriculture sector and the spending of some P136 million for agriculture.

The report cited the delivery of 2.3 million textbooks and the electrification of at least 10 villages in various parts of Central Luzon.

kaz U.S.A. Truly Cares!

Vicks Personal Steam Inhaler by KAZ

Kaz Steam Vaporizer

NATURAL RELIEF FOR:
Nasal Congestion, Cough, Flu & Sinusitis

Kaz Evaporative Humidifier

Vicks Steam Vaporizer by KAZ

Kaz Steam Facial / Vaporizer

Available at mercury drug Stores Nationwide

Power Input: 220 Volts

Exclusively Distributed by:
medical center trading corporation
Pioneer St., Cor. Shaw Blvd., Pasig City • Tels. 631-1715; 631-9355; 637-9504 • Fax (632) 631-7869 • E-mail Address: medcen@info.com.ph

Pasig City (02)	Manila City (02)	Cebu City (032)	Davao City (082)	Iloilo City (033)	Lipa City (043)	Pampanga (045)
631-1715	711-8374	254-2367	222-4404	320-1413	757-2051	961-7892

also for adults use

AUTOMATIC SHUT-OFF (every 10 mins.)
AC/DC BATTERY OPERATED
FOR HOME AND CAR USE
RECHARGEABLE BATTERY

kidoo
Ultrasonic Nebulizer for Kids!
effective aerosol medication therapy in 6 minutes for
ACUTE BRONCHITIS
BRONCHIAL ASTHMA
EMPHYSEMA
PULMONARY INFECTIONS
COPD
and other
RESPIRATORY DISORDERS

3 Yrs. Warranty

masks, mouthpiece and medicine cups are available

Manufactured for and Exclusively Distributed by:
medical center trading corporation
Pioneer St., Cor. Shaw Blvd., Pasig City
Tels.: 631-1715 • 631-9355 • 637-9504 • Fax (632) 631-7869
e-mail Address: medcen@info.com.ph

Available in mercury drug Stores Nationwide

FOR INQUIRIES CALL ANY OF THESE BRANCHES NEAREST YOU

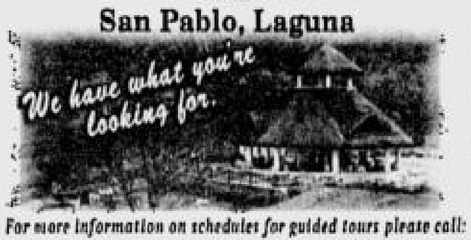
Manila	Cebu	Davao	Iloilo	Lipa	Pampanga
711-8374	(032) 254-2367	(082) 222-4404	(033) 320-1413	(043) 757-2051	(045) 961-7892

A Farmer's Dream.
A City-dweller's Obsession

Fruit-Bearing Trees. Fish-Rich Lakes.
Resort Amenities. Perfect Place for Farm animals...

Lakeside Farms

San Pablo, Laguna



For more information on schedules for guided tours please call:
807-8405 • 842-7354 • 842-3671

BE AN ENTREPRENEUR!!!
YOUR OWN WATER REFILLING STATION WITH NO FRANCHISE FEES AND NO ROYALTIES.

For as low as 290T

QUALI PURE
QUALITY DRINKING WATER
WATER SYSTEMS & EQUIPMENT

GUARANTEED TECHNICAL & MARKETING SUPPORT:
- Store design & layout
- Installation
- Training & seminar
- Excellent after sales service
- Free water testing

WE HAVE COMPLETE LINE OF:
- Reverse osmosis water purification components
- Water softeners
- Ultra-violet water sterilizers
- Pressure gauges
- Media filters
- Membranes
- Filter cartridges & housing
- Gallon meter
- Heat gun

NEWLY OPENED BRANCHES:
Bagong Silang, Kalookan City • Imus, Cavite • Paco, Manila

ADD.: 200 M.H. Del Pilar St., Tinajeros, Malabon City
TELEFAX NO. (632) 288-3858
(632) 446-0105

TRY iT!
✓ PREVENT & REDUCE Smoke Belching
✓ IMPROVE ENGINE Power & Performance
✓ SAVE UP TO 40% Gasoline or Diesel Consumption

QUALITY TESTED
GASOLINE • DIESEL
SAVER &
POWER IMPROVER

USE...
GASOLINE or DIESEL SAVER & POWER IMPROVER
- Scientifically formulated reducing gasoline or diesel consumption
- Improves gasoline or diesel engine power and performance
- Reducing friction and improving engine compression & combustion
- Reducing smoke in diesel engines & effectively cleans the fuel system
- Engine runs cooler, quietly and smoothly

[Add.1 bottle (120ml) to every 20 liters of gasoline or diesel]

A QUALITY PRODUCT OF
SAMWAY CORPORATION
10 Paraiso St., SFDM, Quezon City, Metro Manila, Phils.
Tel. Nos.: 374-2960 • 413-1019 • 413-1014

THERMOMETER OF YOUR CHOICE!
A Variety of Excellence to Choose from.

HARTMANN® Digital Thermometer
MEDICA Digital Thermometer
ZHMIF Oral/Rectal Thermometer
CITIZEN Digital Ear Thermometer
VICKS® Digital Thermometer

Available at mercury drug Stores Nationwide

Exclusively Distributed by: medical center trading corporation
Pioneer St., Cor. Shaw Blvd., Pasig City Tels. 631-1715; 631-9355; 637-9504
Fax (632) 631-7869 E-mail Address: medcen@info.com.ph

Pasig City (02)	Manila City (02)	Cebu City (032)	Davao City (082)	Iloilo City (033)	Lipa City (043)	Pampanga (045)
631-1715	711-8374	254-2367	222-4404	320-1413	757-2051	961-7892

Restore your defective equipment at Affordable Cost!
We Specialize in
LAPTOP & FAX REPAIRS

We also repair: PC's • Printer • Monitors • Electronics Typewriters UPS, Shredders & Others

FOR MULTI-USERS AVAIL OF OUR SMA

The most ECONOMICAL maintenance program EVER!
✓ Full staff of skilled and experienced engineers and technicians.
✓ From simple cleaning to major trouble shooting.
✓ Repairs can be carried out right at your office, minimizing downtime.

Best in Customer Satisfaction -Samsung Electronics
AWARDED

THREE OFFICES TO SERVE YOU
BUSINESSCARE S.T.C. Inc.

QUEZON CITY	MANILA	MAKATI
Tel: 912-1077 912-1089	536-6576 536-6573	893-0898 • 893-1594 893-1597

DISCOVER BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES!
Uncover your potentials as an entrepreneur and be your own boss.
Let TLRC show you how.
TLRC offers you more than 200 business courses to choose from.

SCHEDULE OF COURSES FOR MAY and JUNE 2002

Homebusiness Courses

May 28-29	Catering Business Operation
May 28-31	Electroplating
May 29-30	Entrepreneurial Marketing (NEW)
May 30-31	Corsage and Bouquet Making
May 30-31	Selling up a Hardware and Construction Supply Store
May 31	Selling up a Travel Agency
June 1-2	Herbal Bath Soap *(in cooperation with ITDI/DOST)*
June 1-2	Aromatic and Decorative Candle Making *(in cooperation with ITDI/DOST)*
June 1-2	Jewelry Appraisal and Pawnshop Operation
June 1-3	Event Planning, Marketing and Management (NEW)
June 3-4	Therapeutic Massage (Swedish Style)
June 3-4	Fastfood Business Operation *(with field trip)*
June 3-4	Wood Framing
June 3-5	Coconut Mini-Oil Milling and Refining *(with field trip)*
June 5-6	Resin Bonded Artwares
June 5-7	Food and Beverage Services (Waitering, Bartending and Stewarding)
June 7	Paper Recycling
June 7	Perfumes and Colognes
June 6-7	Printing Press Business *(with field trip)*
June 7-8	Design and Operation of a Water Refilling Station Business *(with field trip)*
June 8-9	Reflexology
June 8-9	Aromatic and Decorative Candle Making *(in cooperation with ITDI/DOST)*
June 8-9	Dollar Trading/Foreign Currency Exchange
June 8-10	Fresh Flower Arrangement and Flower Shop Operation and Management *(with field trip)*
June 10-11	Creative Photography (Basic)
June 10-11	Catering Business Operation

Agri/Aqua Courses

June 1-3	Tilapia Culture
June 4-6	Layer Production (Table Egg) *(with field trip)*
June 5-6	Goat and Sheep Raising *(with field trip)*
June 5-7	Mango Production (with Improved Flower Induction) and Post-Harvest Handling and Storage Technology *(with field trip)*
June 8-11 & 13	Swine Production *(with field trip)*

Food Courses

May 28-29	Sorbetes (Commercial Production)
May 28-31	Commercial Breadmaking and Bakery Management
May 30-31	International Cuisine (Asian and European)
June 1-2	Specialty Cakes and Pastries
June 3-4	Mango Processing
June 5-6	Basic Meat Processing
June 6-7	Chinese Dimsum
June 8-11	Commercial Breadmaking and Bakery Management

Sessions are held daily in fully air-conditioned rooms.

Course fees are inclusive of handouts, materials and field trips, when needed. Free flowing coffee, and post-training services.

Call us today at tels.: 633-5709 ; 633-6728; 633-4108 to 12 and 633-4018 to 22. Better still, visit our website at www.tlrc.gov.ph

Room 806, 8th Flr. Citystate Centre Bldg.,
709 Shaw Blvd., Pasig City (near Rizal Capitol Rotunda)

All training participants get special discounts on TLRC-produced livelihood publications and video courses.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
Republic of the Philippines
TECHNOLOGY and LIVELIHOOD RESOURCE CENTER
The Power of Knowledge

25 Years OF SERVICE TO THE NATION

CAREERS. SUCCESS. FRIENDS.

Photography by: Dominique James

make it happen!

You can find success with the training you need.
John Robert Powers has a program for you to make it happen.
CONFIDENCE. PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT.
EXECUTIVE GROOMING. ACTING. MODELING.
Your future is in your hands.

CALL NOW! 892 9511

John Robert Powers
www.johnrobertpowers.com
Casmer Building, 195 Salcedo St.
Legaspi Village, Makati
CONVENIENT PARKING NEARBY

GET ON WITH LIFE. START TODAY. FREE CONSULTATION.

SK phase-out pressed

SAYING the government should accept that the Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) "experiment" was failure, Palawan Rep. Abraham Mitra yesterday pushed for the holding of the last SK elections in July.

In a statement, Mitra sought a three-year phase-out of the SK and for "other forms of youth representation" to take its place.

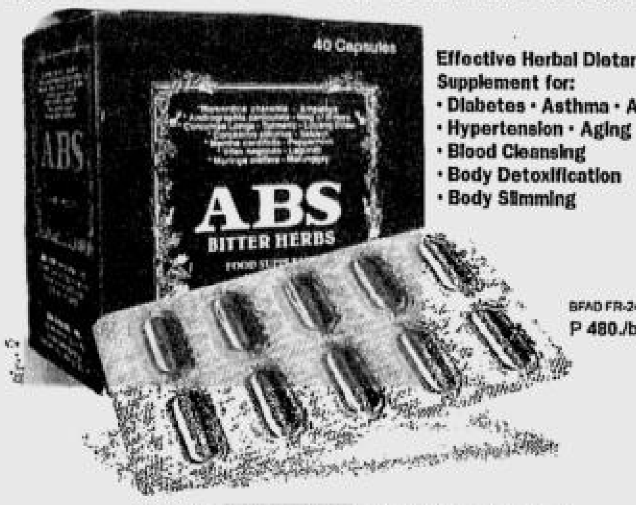
One way of ensuring youth representation in barangay councils is by reserving one slot in the council for a "youth councilman," he said.

The councilman will be elected by his peers during the regular barangay election, he said.

"Through legislation, we can provide for one youth representative in the barangay council," Mitra said.

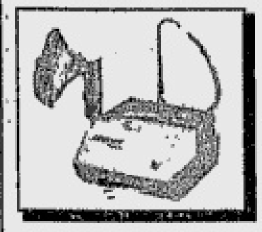
Another House minority member, Cavite Rep. Gilbert Remulla, had earlier filed a bill for the election of a barangay youth representative.

A low turnout was reported in last week registration of voters aged 15-17 years old for the SK election. ***Christine Avendaño***

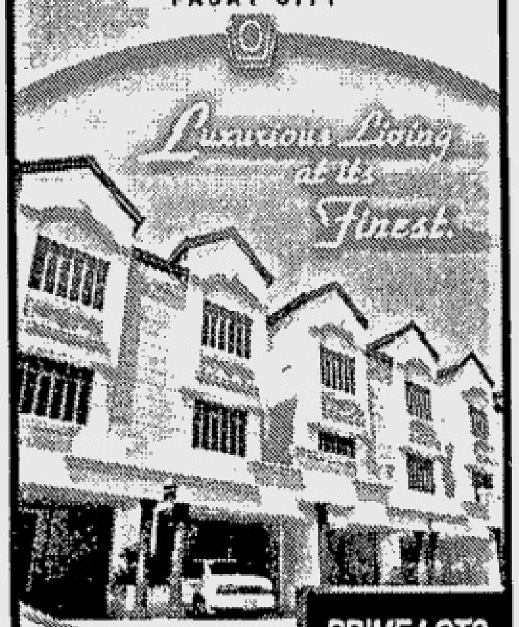


1st PHILIPPINE WORLD CLASS WONDER HERBAL
40 Capsules
ABS BITTER HERBS
Effective Herbal Dietary Supplement for:
• Diabetes • Asthma • Arthritis
• Hypertension • Aging
• Blood Cleansing
• Body Detoxification
• Body Slimming
BFAD FR-24405
P 480./box
Featured at MAGANDANG GABI BAYAN (ABS-CBN)
Welcome DEALERS & DISTRIBUTORS
ABS HERBS
Main Office. 80 Masikap Ext., Diliman, Quezon City
Tel. No.: 926-3252 • 925-9318 • 435-0086

MIST COOLING SYSTEMS
Truly Aircondition-like feeling!
COOL MIST SYSTEMS INSTALLED ON LANAI
Cools Outdoor Temperatures up to 30°F
Provides a very cool and refreshing super fine mist without getting wet.
Beat the heat!
Pioneer & Industry Leader since 1996
Perfect to install at outdoor:
Lanai • Veranda • Patios • Garden • Clubhouse • Restaurant • Awnings and Canopies • Event Tents • Roof Decks • Farms • Walkway • Poolside Area • Open Warehouse • Poultry • Piggery • Greenhouse • Orchidariums • Themeparks • Resorts
SALES • RENTALS • SERVICES available
FOR INQUIRIES, CALL NOW!!!
COOL MIST INTERNATIONAL
Tel. Nos.: 920-8109 • 928-3424 Fax: 920-8109
FREE ESTIMATES



ASTHMA NEBULIZER
• Handy & Portable
• Lightweight
• Made in Italy
P 3,800.00 UNTIL May 31, 2002
RECORD NEBULIZER
fareastmedical.net
STAR MILLS PAMPANGA 2nd Floor
SM MANILA 5TH FLR. 484-1471
FAR EAST MEDICAL EQUIPMENT
SM MEGAMALL 5th Flr., Bldg. A 635-04-36
SM FAIRVIEW Basement 418-75-40
SM NORTH EDSA Car Park Plaza 453-3326
CEBU 262-32-39
SM SOUTHMALL Basement 800 40 93
ROBINSONS GALLERIA Basement 635-5061



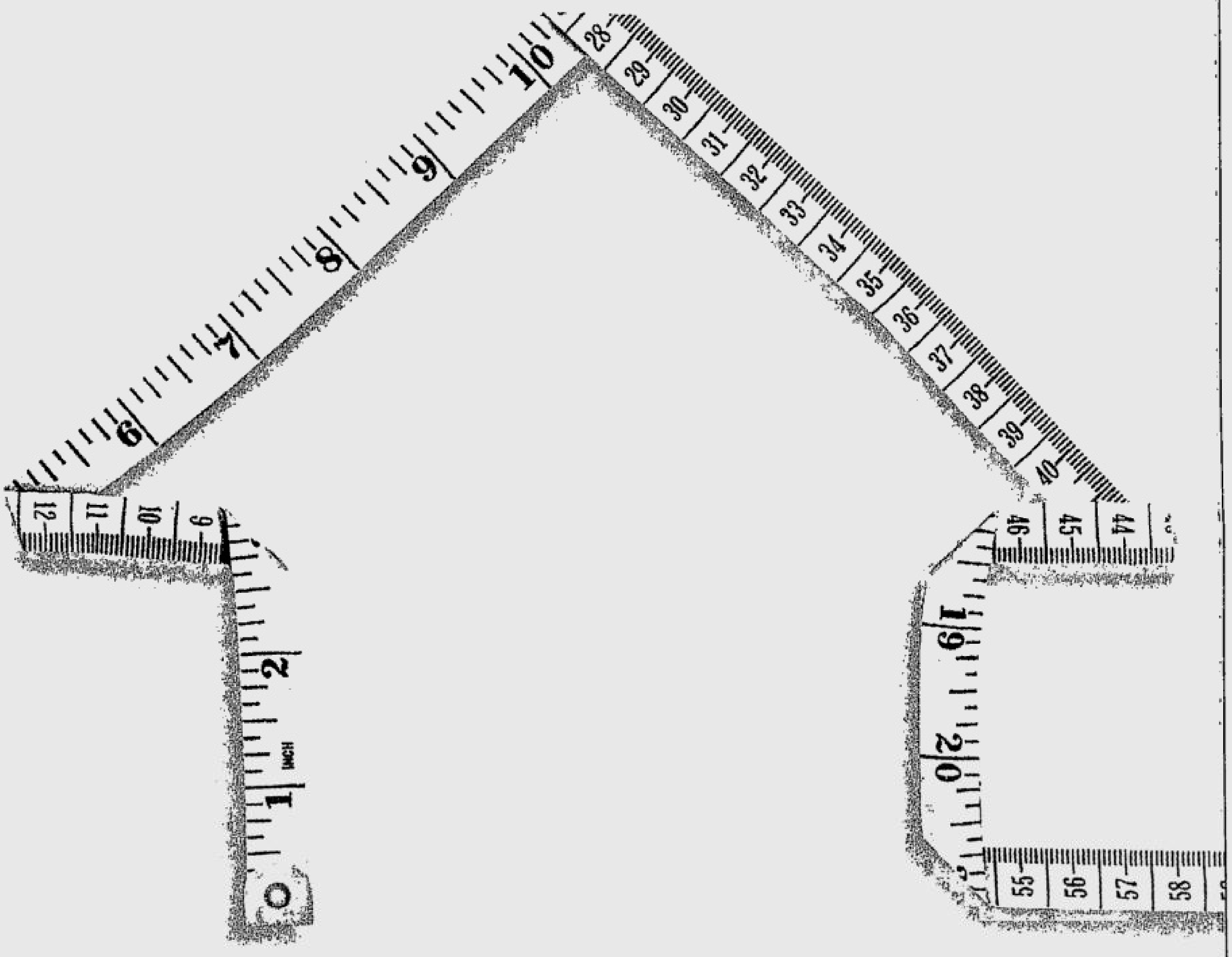
ROYALE CHATEAU
PASAY CITY
Luxurious Living at its Finest.
3-Storey Townhouse
4 Bedrooms, 3 Toilet & Bath
₱4.51 - ₱5.49M
PRIME LOTS FOR SALE 135 - 170 sq.m.
STATE LAND
HLURB LICENSE NO. 98-05-2828
CALL: 8397343 8447878 8452096 8452078 2421231 2421139

Flat Chested
full & firm
Flat Butt
full & firm

COLLAGEN REPLACEMENT THERAPY
From THIS to THAT
The only 100% safe procedure that's non-surgical & pure. Totally painless & scarless. Totally Non-invasive.
Only at Prettylooks Hi-Tech Beauty Centre Medical group
Susan Co Ong
Collagen Theraphy Specialist
OTHER SERVICES:
• AESTHETIC TATTOO (EYEBROWS, EYELINE & LIPS) • LIP AUGMENTATION • NON-SURGICAL FACELIFT • NOSE LIFT • BUST LIFT • BREAST AUGMENTATION • BUTTLIFT • SERIOUS DEEP PORE FACIAL • RECONSTRUCT DAMAGED TATTOO • VARICOSE & SPIDER VEIN TREATMENT • WHITENING TABLET • INSTANT WHITENING • WARTS REMOVAL • LASER OMNILASE TREATMENT • FRECKLE REMOVAL • EYELASHES PERMING • LIPOSUCTION & COSMETIC SURGERY
FOR FREE CONSULTATION, VISIT OR CALL US AT:
• MAKATI: Unit 224-225 Bldg. #2 Central Park I, Gen. Tinio St., cor. Binay St., Bangkal, Makati City
Tels. 889-4830 to 31 • Cell No. 0917-5180675
• BINONDO: 503 Fuyong Mansion 913 Ongpin St. cor. T. Alonzo St. & Sta Cruz St. Manila
Tel. 733-6794
susanong@globenet.com.ph www.prettylooks.com

Hear the voice of summer
Your voice and Magic Videoke Microphone
with one year WARRANTY
Your Own Handy-'Oke
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL:
STERN BRAVO TRADING CORPORATION
(632) 722-6786 • (632) 722-8052

Want to maintain *your* figures for the next 20 years?



NOW YOU CAN
with the
Philamlife Fixed Rate Housing Loan Program.

PHILAMLIFE, the country's leading insurance company offers you its Fixed Rate Housing Loan Program which offers a low interest of 13% for as long as 10 years!

Now, you can be protected against fluctuating interest rates.

With the Philamlife Fixed Rate Housing Loan Program, you can finally have your dream home and know what will it cost.

Term	Interest Rate	Monthly Amortization For PIM
10 years	13.0%	P14,931.07
15 years	13.5%	P12,983.19
20 years	14.0%	P12,435.21

*Interest rates subject to change based on the prevailing rate at the time of loan drawdown.

You could take it easy! Your monthly amortization could go as low as P4,352.32 for a minimum loan amount of P350,000.00, payable in 20 years. The Philamlife Fixed Rate Housing Loan Program. From the country's most financially stable insurance company, Philamlife.

Call Philamlife now! 885-8765 to 70
Trunkline: 885-7777 Fax: 885-8756
www.ephilam.com

PHILAM LIFE
AIG A Member of American International Group, Inc.
LIFE • PERSONAL ACCIDENT • CREDIT LIFE • PENSIONS • GROUP LIFE • GROUP MEDICAL • FIRE • AUTO • HOUSING LOAN
PDI 05/27/02
YES! I'm interested in securing my home through the Philamlife Fixed Rate Housing Loan Program.
Name:
Occupation: Age:
Home Address:
Home Phone: Fax/Pager/Cell/E-mail:
Business Address: Business Phone:
Please send this coupon to the Mortgage Finance Department, PHILAMLIFE INSURANCE CO. INC., 23rd Floor Philamlife Tower, Paseo de Roxas, Makati City

Arguments against accords long on conjecture, short on evidence

From page A1

nap-for-ransom groups in Mindanao.

The communiqué called for joint action to flush out criminal elements suspected of "hiding in MILF Areas-Communities" in order to establish a peaceful milieu for economic development.

Opponents of the agreement claim that the phrase is an implicit recognition by the government that the MILF has sovereignty over these areas.

They then proceed to argue that the government walked into a trap: The MILF could later seek reoccupation of their military installations in the camps seized and destroyed by the Armed Forces.

Those opposed to the agreements claim these provisions on "reparations" and on the MILF areas-communities are a give-away to the MILF.

Understanding

The contentious word "reparations" is not new. It also appears in the 2001 RP-MILF Tripoli agreement, which the May 7 guidelines seek to implement.

The clear understanding between the government team, led by Presidential Adviser on Special Concerns Norberto Gonzales, and the MILF panel is that reparations are not to be extended to the MILF to rebuild their military facilities inside their fallen camps but to civilians dislocated by the war.

The opponents—who incidentally are not parties to the agreements—interpret "reparations" as a means to enable the MILF to rebuild and reoccupy their fallen camps.

The reality on the ground is that the MILF military facilities in their camps, as well as civilian homes and mosques, were destroyed by the AFP campaign. The AFP has a big presence in the captured camps. They have checkpoints, garrisons or engineering battalions, helping restore damaged infrastructure.

Apart from the fact that the MILF has emphatically stated that its guerrillas are not going back to claim the camps, the AFP will not allow the return of these facilities and warriors to the MILF.

Any attempt by the government to return them will certainly be firmly resisted by the AFP, and the government cannot risk political instability by upsetting the AFP over the camps.

The opponents capitalize on the misconception of the MILF camps.

The MILF "camps" cover communities, inhabited by civilians, and agricultural areas in which MILF military facilities (for training or fortifications) were sited. In Camp Abubakar alone, there are at least four municipalities, with barangays, governed by civilian officials. It is to these communities, which are also production zones, where the dislocated evacuees will return.

Difference

The former MILF camps are not the same as AFP camps. For example, Camp Aguinaldo in Quezon City and Fort Bonifacio in Taguig City are purely military installations with perimeter fences or walls. The inhabitants in these camps are military personnel and their dependents.

It is important to know this conceptual difference about the camps in order not to be misled by assertions that the MILF "camps" are being returned to them.

The AFP talks emotionally about its casualties. But what is conveniently ignored is the fact that the war also inflicted casualties on civilians, damaged their properties and dislocated them. The agreement seeks to aid the dislocated with "reparations." In substance, reparations are essentially aid for rehabilitation.

The dislocated civilians are also Filipinos. They are not citizens of a vanquished state. They deserve rehabilitation or assistance to bring them back to normal life. If they continue to be dislocated, the government will face new and more difficult social and security problems.

To insist that they are the vanquished is to implicitly admit that we were at war with a sovereign entity (the MILF), which it is not, and, therefore, under the conventions of war, the MILF should be the one paying reparations.

Reparations, in the agreement, should not be taken in this victor-vanquished context. We are not talking, for example, about the Japanese reparations for war damage to the Philippines in World War II or the German reparations to the Allies in World War I—which are matters negotiated between sovereign states.

The victor-vanquished perspective, in effect, undermines the opponents' own argument that the MILF should not be given belligerency status or be recognized as a sovereign entity.

The opponents need to be consistent in their arguments and stop shooting themselves in the foot with their fallacious reasoning.

The other issue—about "MILF areas/communities"—flows from the argument that the communiqué recognizes the legitimacy of the MILF bases before they were overrun; ergo, the implementing agreement of the 2001 Tripoli accord recognizes the right of the MILF warriors to go back to them. This is the opponents' interpretation.

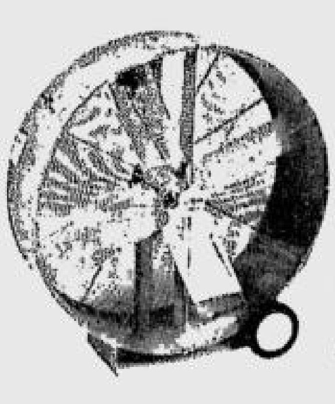
However, the agreeing parties (the government and the MILF) do not see it that way. Both insist that the return of the bases to the MILF is not contemplated at all.

In any case, the situation on the ground has changed radically since the AFP sweep of the MILF camps. The two panels could not and, indeed, did not engage in negotiations over the return of the military facilities inside the "camps" that had already been destroyed by the AFP. What, then, is there to return?

In summary, I see that the arguments of those opposed to the agreements are long on conjecture and short on evidence. They are building a case based on hypotheses. They not only feed on prejudices of the Christian community in Mindanao against the Muslims but also fabricate grim scenarios, built on fears.

The agreements, despite their faults, represent a step forward to the next stage of formulating a larger settlement of the Mindanao conflict. The arguments of the opponents drive the resolution of the conflict to a dead-end—and continuing conflict.

"PERFECT FOR PIGGERY / POULTRY, GREENHOUSES, MACHINERIES, HOT & HUMID WORKPLACES, FOOD PROCESSINGS & TEXTILE PRINTS."



MAXX AIR
PORTABLE AIR CIRCULATOR
Made in U.S.A.

- Portable, industrial-strength, high-velocity blower for rapid cooling & drying purposes.
- Can be wheeled anywhere where air needs to be circulated quickly.
- Stainless Steel Propellers for maximum durability

FOR MORE INFO AND FREE TECHNICAL ADVICE, PLS. CALL:
INDOLA international phils., inc.
665 Florentino Torres St. Sta Cruz, Manila.
Tels.: 733-03-66 to 68 Fax : 736-16-55

ATTENTION! ATTENTION!
ALL BAR REVIEWEES AND 4th YEAR LAW STUDENTS
JUST OFF THE PRESS!
SLAYING THE BAR EXAMS DRAGON
By
RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ
17th Place, 1981 Bar Exams
7th in Rank, LL.B. (UP), 1980
Summa Cum Laude, A.B. - Eco. (DLSU), 1975
High Distinction, M.A. - Eco. (XU), 1984
CJ Harlan Stone Honors, LL.M. (Columbia), 1995

- How to Top (Pass) the Bar Exams
- Tips on Effective Bar Review Methods
- Step-by-Step Bar Exams Techniques
- SC Rules on the Conduct of the Bar Exams
- SC Required Forms For the Bar Exams

Available at :
REX BOOK STORE, INC.

University of the Philippines
INSTITUTE OF JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION
Bocobo Hall, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines 1101
Tel. Nos. 434-9531; 920-5301 to 99; 920-5401 loc. 5862
Telefax No. 929-7137

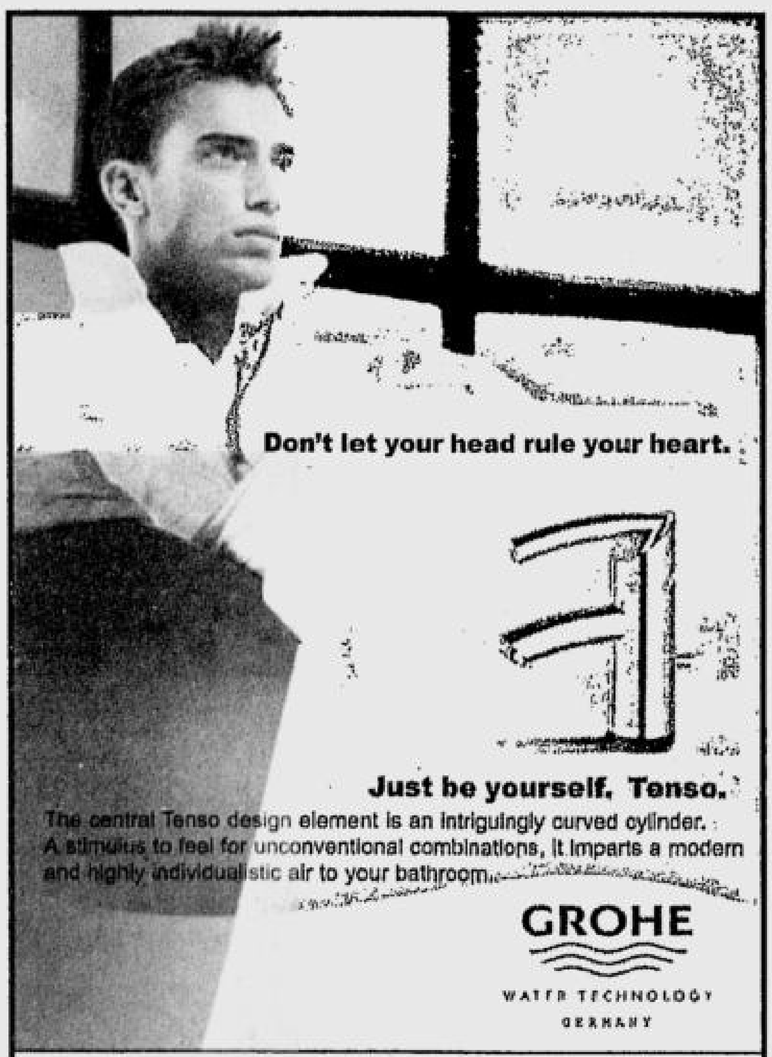
INSTITUTE ON LEGAL ETHICS
25-28 June 2002
Malcolm Theater, U.P. College of Law

Tuesday, 25 June 2002; 1:30-5:30 p.m.
Topic : The Lawyer, the Court and the Media
For the Court : ACA ISMAEL G. KHAN, JR.
For the Lawyers : Atty. ROGELIO A. VINLUAN, JR.
For the Media : Atty. KATRINA LEGARDA

Wednesday, 26 June 2002; 1:30-3:00 p.m.
Topic : Good Moral Character in the Legal Profession
Lecturer : JUSTICE HECTOR L. HOFILEÑA
3:30-5:30 p.m.
Topic : Legal Ethics and Government Lawyers
Lecturer : JUSTICE HILARION L. AQUINO

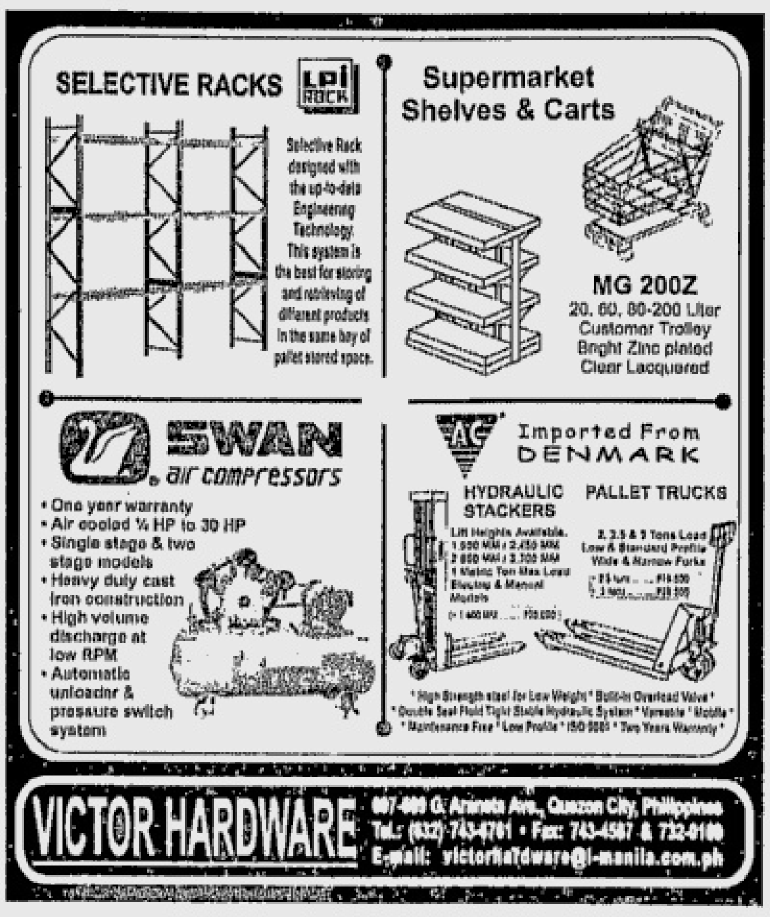
Thursday, 27 June 2002; 1:30-3:00 p.m.
Topic : Comparative Study in Selected Areas of Legal Ethics
Lecturer : Prof. ABELARDO T. DOMONDON
3:30-5:30 p.m.
Topic : Criminal, Civil and Administrative Liabilities of Lawyers
Lecturer : JUSTICE NICOLAS P. LAPEÑA

Friday, 28 June 2002; 1:30-5:00 p.m.
Topic : Procedural Aspects of Administrative Disciplinary Actions Against Lawyers
Lecturer : JUSTICE JOSE L. SABIO, JR.



The central Tenso design element is an intriguingly curved cylinder. A stimulus to feel for unconventional combinations, it imparts a modern and highly individualistic air to your bathroom.

Sole Agent:
DEXTERTON INDUSTRIAL CORP.
157 Sgt. E. Rivera St. (Near Damar Village) Quezon City
Tel.: 362-1111 ; 361-6006 Fax No.: 362-0524
E-mail: dexterton@dexterton.com www.dexterton.com



Selective Rack designed with the up-to-date Engineering Technology. This system is the best for storing and retrieving of different products in the same bay of pallet stored space.

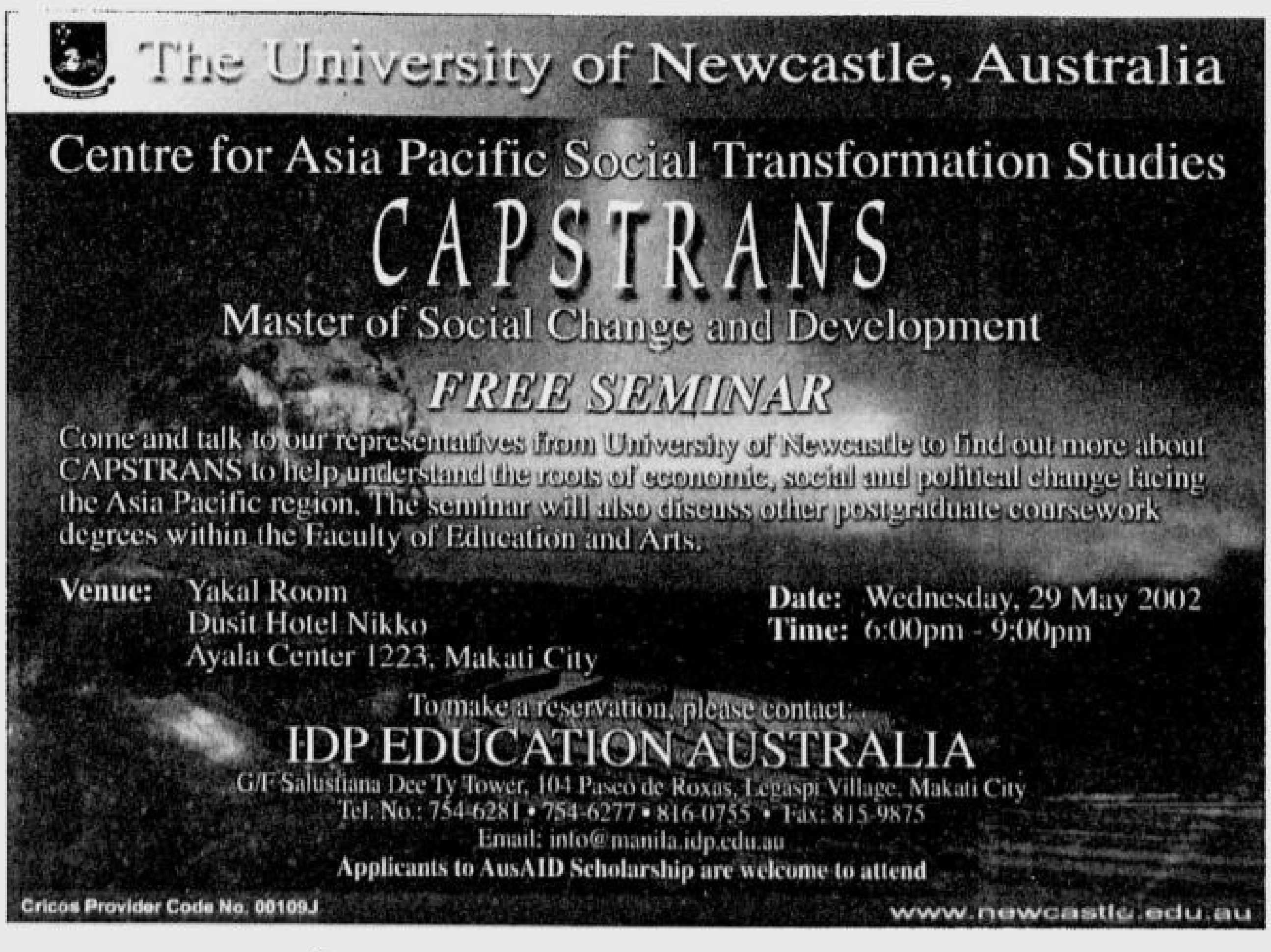
MG 200Z
20, 60, 80-200 Liter
Customer Trolley
Bright Zinc plated
Clear Lacquered

- One year warranty
- Air cooled ¼ HP to 30 HP
- Single stage & two stage models
- Heavy duty cast iron construction
- High volume discharge at low RPM
- Automatic unloader & pressure switch system

Panda®
Ball Pen
25 years of Unsurpass Quality
Panda®
Panda Crystal,
Panda Matic,
Rainbow Magic

No skipping. No blotting.
Writes smoothly.
Guaranteed to write to the last drop.

Available at all leading Bookstores, Stationers, School & Office Supplies Stores, Wholesalers, Supermarkets & Department Stores Nationwide


The University of Newcastle, Australia
Centre for Asia Pacific Social Transformation Studies
CAPSTRANS
Master of Social Change and Development
FREE SEMINAR
Come and talk to our representatives from University of Newcastle to find out more about CAPSTRANS to help understand the roots of economic, social and political change facing the Asia Pacific region. The seminar will also discuss other postgraduate coursework degrees within the Faculty of Education and Arts.

Venue: Yakal Room
Dusit Hotel Nikko
Ayala Center 1223, Makati City
Date: Wednesday, 29 May 2002
Time: 6:00pm - 9:00pm

To make a reservation, please contact:
IDP EDUCATION AUSTRALIA
G/F Salustiana Dee Ty Tower, 104 Paseo de Roxas, Legaspi Village, Makati City
Tel. No.: 754-6281 • 754-6277 • 816-0755 • Fax: 815-9875
Email: info@manila.idp.edu.au
Applicants to AusAID Scholarship are welcome to attend
Cricos Provider Code No. 00109J
www.newcastle.edu.au

Daza poll win upheld

FORMER Estrada lawyer Raul Daza can now govern Northern Samar in peace after the Commission on Elections junked a petition by his rivals to declare a failure of elections in the province.

The petition was filed by gubernatorial candidate Madeleine Mendoza-Ong and congressional bets Jose Ong and Teodoro Jumamil.

The Comelec *en banc*, during the promulgation on May 7, said the petitioners tried but failed "to build a case behind allegations of violence, terrorism, force and intimidation allegedly perpetrated by communist insurgents, in conspiracy with the respondents."

Daza was one of the lawyers of deposed president Joseph Estrada during the historic impeachment trial in the Senate. ***Blanche Rivera***

Fond Memories To Last!

Only P700

We'll transfer them from Beta, VHS, Video 8, Mini-DV & 8mm reels

For special occasions like weddings, baptisms and birthdays

TO VIDEO CD

Free Pick-Up And Delivery Within Metro Manila

IDEAL WORKS

☎ Makati: 892-9073 to 75
Quezon City: 366-2177 • 365-3025 • 330-5942

OXY-GEN THERAPY SET

Relieve difficulty in breathing

Your complete indoor & outdoor first aid kit

Air on Wheels!

Includes:
Oxygen Regulator
Nasal Cannula
Oxygen Cylinder
Stroller Bag (3 in 1)

Distributed by medical center trading corporation
Pioneer St., Cor. Shaw Blvd., Pasig City Tels. 631-1715; 631-9355; 637-9504
Fax (632) 631-7869 E-mail Address: medcen@info.com.ph

Pasig City (02)	Manila City (02)	Cebu City (032)	Davao City (082)	Iloilo City (033)	Lipa City (043)	Pampanga (045)
631-1715	711-8374	254-2367	222-4404	320-1413	757-2051	961-7892

Available in all mercury drug Stores Nationwide

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

We hereby inform the public that effective July 1, 2002, there will be a new policy on GLOBELINES PREPAID account life cycle, i.e., a GLOBELINES PREPAID account shall be permanently disconnected if:

(1) A subscriber does not recharge his account 90 days after the last loading date, or

(2) A subscriber does not load a card within 60 days from his account's installation date.

To avoid service disruption, we remind all Globelines Prepaid subscribers to keep their account active by regularly loading a Globelines Prepaid card into their account.

Globelines PREPAID

A SERVICE OF GLOBE TELECOM AND ISLA COMMUNICATIONS CO., INC. A wholly-owned subsidiary of Globe Telecom

Globelines is a trademark used by Isla Communications under license from Globe Telecom.

BLUE CROSS

caring for my family and me!

Jackeline Ble

GET the Best Medical Care with
Your Own Doctor, Hospital or Specialist---WORLDWIDE!

SELECT Med Plan	PREMIER Med Plan	BLUE ROYALE Plan
*For infant to age 65	*For Senior Citizens	*Int'l Dollar Plan

- Medical Insurance
- Travelsafe Insurance
- Healthcare

BLUE CROSS INSURANCE, INC.

Visit www.bluecross.com.ph or call 8998001

For Inquiries, please fill up and fax to 899-5392

☑ YES! I want to know more about BLUE CROSS products.

Name: ______ Age: ______
Address: ______
Tel. No.: ______ Fax No.: ______
Email: ______ Mobile: ______

PDInquirer

ENROLLMENT GOING ON
For School Year 2002-2003

IETI
COMPUTER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

No Tuition Fee Increase! Lowest Downpayment Upon Enrollment.

- The LARGEST Cisco Networking Academy in the Philippines
- BEST TRAINING PARTNER of *Microsoft® Press* in South Asia
- CHAMPION - Cisco Networking Academy Program (CNAP) Day Skills Competition
- Ranked 2nd WORLDWIDE in Brainbench International Information Technology (IT) Certifications
- CHAMPION - Cisco Networking Academy Program (CNAP) Day Skills Competition
- CHAMPION - TESDA-NCR Skills Olympics in Information Technology
- CHAMPION - TESDA-NCR Web Page Designing
- Authorized Prometric Testing Center (APTC)
- *Microsoft®* Office User Specialist (MOUS) Authorized Testing Center
- Authorized Sun Philippines Educational Center (ASPEC)
- First School in the Philippines to have access to the world's BEST LIBRARIES in the Internet through Grolier Online.

COURSES OFFERED:
- 4-Year Degree Courses
- 2-Year IT Diploma Courses
- 2-Year Electronics & Electro-Mechanical Courses

Get Ahead... Be Certified!!!

IETI is an Authorized Testing Center offering internationally recognized IT Certification examinations for easier Employment Abroad.

Cisco Systems
Cisco Certified Networking Associate (CCNA)

Microsoft Office User Specialist (MOUS)

IETI School System
Alabang: 842-1804
IETI College-Alabang: 850-0937 to 40
Biñan: (049)511-9386
Cainta: 655-1655/240-3856
Calamba: (049)545-6279/ to 80
Caloocan: 361-7381/364-4913
Imus: (046)471-2340/970-7574
Lagro: 417-1619/419-1173
Las Piñas: 874-4765/871-4351
Makati: 882-0435/882-0492
IETI College-Marikina: 682-2984/682-3445
Pasay: 831-1775/832-0298
IETI College-San Pedro: 868-1502/868-1505
Santolan: 721-9820/721-9824

PARTNERS IN EXCELLENCE
Cisco Systems · MFI · Microsoft® Press · Thomson Prometric · Sun · FESTO · FANUC · Grolier Online · Brainbench

For more particulars, call 831-4519 / 831-7563. Visit our Website @ www.ieti.edu.ph

The Leader In Home Financing

BPI FAMILY BANK

Now Offers You Our

LOWEST MONTHLY AMORTIZATIONS EVER!

Choose any one of these 3 options:

₱1,015.00 a month FIXED for 1 year
₱1,106.00 a month FIXED for 2 years
₱1,200.00 a month FIXED for 3 years

For every loan amount of ₱100,000
with a 15-year loan term.
Minimum loan amount is ₱400,000.

PLUS! FAST 5-day Credit Decision.

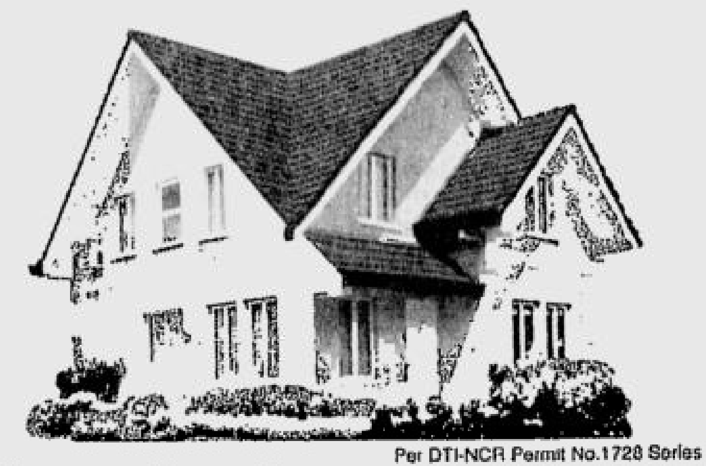
We are also waiving application fees.

These offers are good from May 3 to June 30, 2002 only.

So why wait? Decide now and take advantage of these really affordable housing loan packages only from BPI Family Bank.

Call 845-6888 today!
Or, drop by any BPI, BPI Family Bank branch or Express Banking Center nearest you.

BPI Family Bank Provincial Business Centers: Dagupan: (075) 522-0372/73; 523-4679 • San Fernando, Pampanga: (045) 963-5524 • Lipa: (043) 757-1000/02 • Cebu: (032) 254-0895/97 Iloilo: (033) 335-0229 • Bacolod: (034) 435-0639; 433-8032 Cagayan De Oro: (08822) 726-067 • Davao: (082) 224-0931/34



Per DTI-NCR Permit No.1728 Series of 2002

BPI FAMILY BANK

HAPPY FAMILY HOUSING LOAN

EUGENIA
D. APOSTOL
*Founding
Chairman*

INQUIRER

*Vol. 16 No. 168
ISSN
0116-2642*

OPINION

e-mail: feedback@inquirer.com.ph website: http://www.inq7.net

The PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, INC. has its business and editorial offices at
▪ Chino Roces Ave. corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
▪ P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City
▪ Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments
▪ Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 ▪ Advertising 897-4807
▪ Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 /
528-0186 and 528-0213 / Fax: 528-0234.

Publisher **ISAGANI YAMBOT**
Editor in Chief **LETTY JIMENEZ-MAGSANOC**
Managing Editor **JOSE MA. D. NOLASCO**
Associate Editor **ABELARDO S. ULANDAY**
News Editor **ARTEMIO T. ENGRACIA JR.**
Opinion Editor **JORGE V. ARUTA**
Assistant News Editor **NILO B. PAUROM**
National Editor **PERGENTINO B. BANDAYREL JR.**
City Editor **GERRY LIRIO**
Senior Deskperson **ROSARIO A. GARCELLANO**
Editorial Consultant **AMANDO DORONILA**
Chief Photographer **ERNIE U. SARMIENTO**
Art & Design Director **LYNETT A. VILLARIBA**

Board Chairman **MARIXI R. PRIETO**
President **ALEXANDRA PRIETO-ROMUALDEZ**
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing **RENATO R. REINOSO**
Senior Vice President for Corporate Services **DAVID O. VALDES**
VP for Advertising **FELIPE R. OLARTE**
AVP for Circulation **GLORIA P. LARDIZABAL**

All rights reserved. Subject to the conditions provided for by law, no article or photograph published by the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reprinted or reproduced, in whole or in part, without its prior consent.

EDITORIALS

One year

AMERICAN missionaries Martin and Gracia Burnham mark a full year in captivity today. It is impossible to imagine the horror they have lived through—sick, bound, hungry, barefoot, perpetually on the run—after 12 months in the jungles of Basilan. The last time they were interviewed, in November last year, they said their separation from their three young children was the pain that grieved them most.

Their companion in misery, Filipino nurse Ediborah Yap, marks her first anniversary as an Abu Sayyaf hostage a week from now, on June 2. She too has lived through hell on earth; she too has been torn violently from her four children, all of whom have stopped their schooling because, in the words of her sister, "there is no support going their way."

But sad as their fate is, theirs are not the only lives turned upside down by the mercenary group. Of the 20 Dos Palmas hostages taken by surprise at dawn on May 27, 2001, three victims have been executed: security guard Reynaldo Bayona, kitchen employee Sonny Daquer, both Filipinos, and American Guillermo Sobero, killed by the Abu Sayyaf on June 12 as an Independence Day "gift" to President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

The other hostages—including 15 others from Dos Palmas, since released on ransom or escaped; at least 10 fishermen, whom the Abu Sayyaf used in the four-day crawl from Palawan to Basilan; and four more victims, seized, like Yap, from the Lamitan hospital when the bandits made their controversial escape from a military dragnet on June 2, 2001—have also been traumatized. The sorry experience of 8-year-old RJ Recio, who had to survive both a week in captivity and hours of testimony before a congressional committee, provides one stark example of innocence terrorized.

The least known of all the costs, however, is the death toll the country's armed services have sustained. At least 43 soldiers have died since the AFP launched its "pursuit operations" of the kidnap-for-ransom terrorists.

It is the fate of the last three remaining hostages, however, which defines for the public the toll the crisis has taken.

In many ways, especially since June, the AFP has handled the hostage situation to the best of its ability and its inadequate resources. It has strengthened its chokehold on the island of Basilan, forcing many bandits—as its record of arrests will show—to flee to other areas. It has worked with Malacañang to redirect US military training—both in terms of content, to counter-terrorism, and of venue, to actual at-risk areas in Basilan. It has applied enough military pressure on the bandits to force them to let go of some hostages and to once again raise the banner of negotiation.

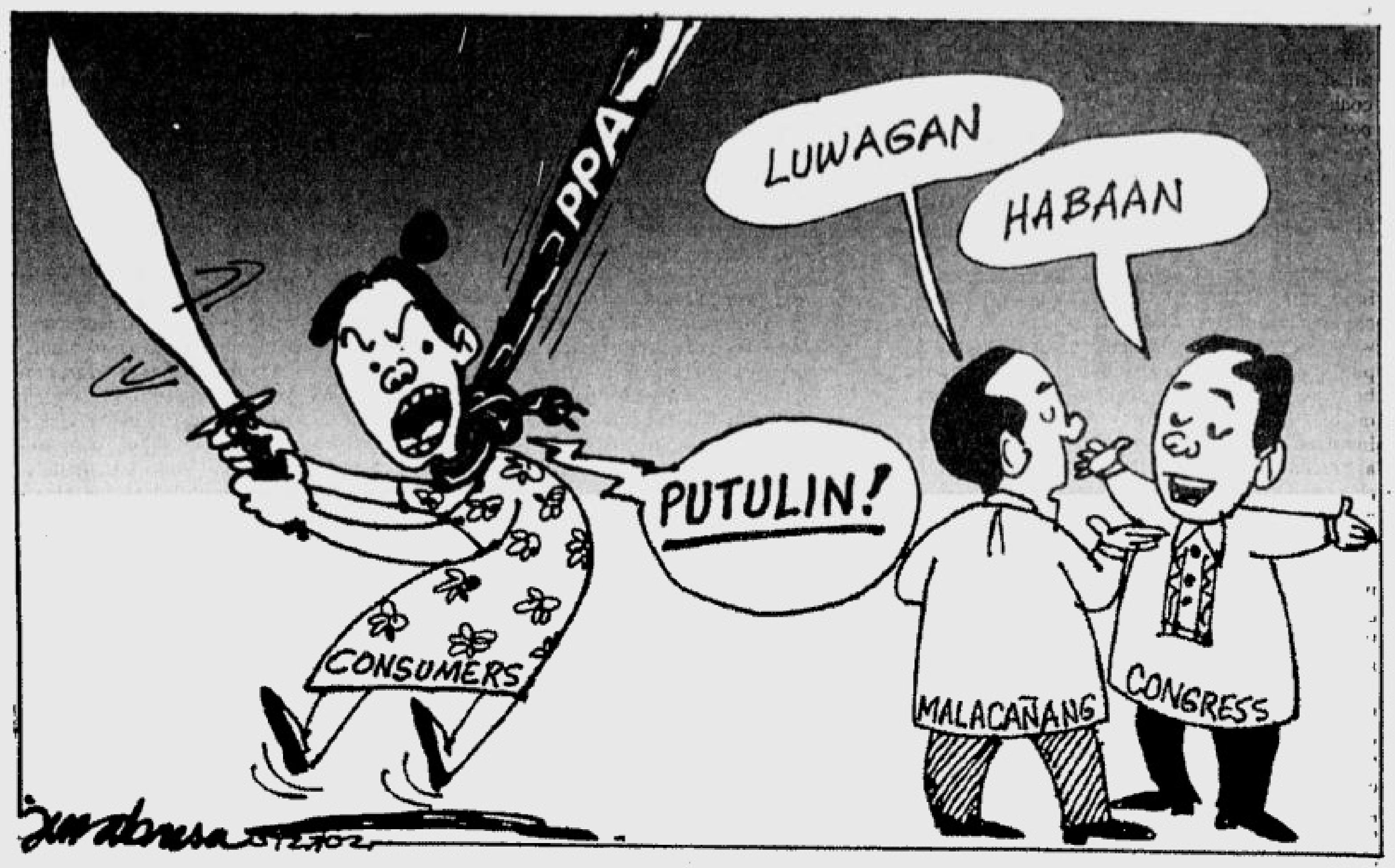
With the President as chief spokesperson, the AFP has also effectively made the case for the United States to consider the spawning grounds of Basilan as the second front of the international war on terror.

But in the public mind, all these military and diplomatic successes still amount to a conspicuous failure. So long as the Burnhams and Yap remain in captivity, so long as the reticent Khaddafy Janjalani and the arrogant Abu Sabaya remain at large, the public will consider the AFP's mission seriously unaccomplished.

One place

THE COUNTRY'S long-running hostage crisis may have started in Palawan, but in the public mind it is all about Basilan. In particular, the saga of the Burnhams et al. is identified with Lamitan, where the Abu Sayyaf bandits brought the Dos Palmas hostages for a stopover. Lamitan is the same place where businessman Reghis Romero made his controversial on-camera dash to freedom, the same site where a group of about 20 bandits with about the same number of hostages walked away from a hospital surrounded by the military.

Fifty-one weeks after that fiasco, it has become clearer than ever that the episode was one of the lowest points in the history of the AFP. To this day, the military maintains that key officers were not paid off to allow the Abu Sayyaf to escape. The testimony of witnesses on the ground suggests otherwise. But even if we take the military at its word, the AFP still has some—in fact, even more—explaining to do. In the war on terror, incompetence is almost as scandalous as lack of integrity.



Everybody's to blame except Ramos on IPPs

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

IF former President Fidel V. Ramos is to be believed, everybody else is to be blamed for the high electricity rates but not him. Blame former President Corazon Aquino, his predecessor, for passing on to him a power crisis, and blame former President Joseph Estrada, his successor, for allowing the Philippine economy to drop so that it could not use all the electricity produced by the independent power producers (IPPs) with whom Ramos signed contracts during his own term. But not him, even if he was the one who signed the contracts.

According to Ramos' convoluted logic, had Erap been able to boost the economy during his 30-month reign, we wouldn't have an excess of power now and people would not be complaining about the high electricity rates. What he, Ramos, had done was to provide for the country's future power needs. That the nation was not able to utilize that power as he had expected, that was not his fault. That was the fault of his successor for not being able to use up all that extra power. According to the law of supply and demand, prices should drop when there is an oversupply. But in the present case, while there is an oversupply of electricity, rates are high because the government is paying for the excess.

No wonder Ramos does not want to testify before the Senate. The senators will laugh at him for such logic.

If we must resort to finger-pointing, let us point the accusing finger at the right persons. Let us look back at the last two decades. Because of the Oil Shock that saw much of the world down on its knees when the oil cartel, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec), raised the world prices of oil, then President Ferdinand Marcos sought to lessen our dependence on oil. He developed geothermal power plants, hydroelectric plants and the nuclear plant in Bataan. That nuclear plant was to be our power supply for the future.

But because people were afraid of that nuclear plant due to disasters involving such plants in other countries, Marcos' successor, President Aquino, mothballed it. She also abolished the Department of Energy because it was a Marcos creation. But she did not—or forgot—to provide a replacement to answer for our future power needs—although up to this day, we are paying $200,000 a day in interest to the loans incurred for the power plant. (In spite of the billions of dollars we have already paid, our original loan has not diminished by even one red cent. We were paying only for the interest. If we continue the present practice, we would be paying for that useless plant for eternity and the loan would not be paid.)

As a result of that shortsightedness, we had the power crisis of the 1990s when we had daylong blackouts. That's how the IPPs started. To address the power deficiency that peaked in 1993, the government signed contracts with power producers to generate electricity for the National Power Corp. From 1988 to 1994, 26 contracts with IPPs were signed, with a total capacity of 2,956 megawatts and a total investment cost of US$2.77 billion. Initial commercial operations started in 1992. Eleven of these contracts (2,355 mw; $2.704 billion) were signed during the Ramos administration.

The blackouts continued and Congress panicked and passed the Emergency Power Crisis Act giving the President emergency powers for two years to address the deficiency.

Naturally, it was a seller's market. The IPPs were getting very juicy terms and guarantees from a panicked government. The government guaranteed to pay for the full-rated capacity of each power plant. No plant ever operates at its full capacity for long; usually the highest is only 85 percent of capacity. Nevertheless, the government guaranteed to pay for the full-rated capacity. Not only that, even if all the power produced by the IPPs were not being utilized, in fact, even when they are not operating at all, the government paid for all rated capacities. That's what we, the electricity consumers, are paying in the PPA (purchased power adjustment). We are paying for electricity we did not consume. We are paying for electricity that was not even produced by the IPP generators.

Because the terms for the IPPs were so generous, new ones continued to come in. From 1991 to 1998 Ramos contracted 16 more IPPs with a total capacity of 6,129 MW and a cost of $7.02 billion. (We now have a total of 42 IPPs.) In fact, when there was already an excess power capacity and the Asian economic crisis was upon us, Ramos continued to sign IPP contracts. His emergency powers under the two-year Emergency Power Crisis Act had already expired but Ramos was still signing IPP contracts. From 1997 to 1998, when there was already an apparent excess power capacity, Ramos still signed five more IPP contracts with a capacity of 2,097 MW and a cost of $3,013 million!

It should be noted that before the advent of the IPPs, the Napocor was making a net profit, With the entry of Ramos and the IPPs, the Napocor started to lose billions of pesos. From 1997 to 1999 alone, the Napocor had a net loss of P8.711 billion!

Ramos denies having signed any "midnight deals." His term ended in 1998. But in 1997 and 1998, five more IPP contracts were signed, long after the presidential emergency powers had expired. These were the Natural Gas Project of Kapco, the San Pascual Cogeneration Plant, the Caliraya-Botocan-Kalayaan plant of Impsa, the Mindanao Coal-Fired Plant of State/Harbin, and the San Roque multi-purpose plant of Marubeni/Italian/Thai. Three of these are still in the preconstruction stage and won't be operational until 2004 and 2005.

Ramos claims Erap also signed IPPs. The records do not show that.

We would have even more excess capacity in the years to come, and that—in the logic of Ramos—would be the fault of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo for not improving the economy so that all that excess capacity can be utilized.

Again, sense of country

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

GREGORIO Viterbo had a fantastic letter to the editor last week. (PDI, 5/23/02) We all know, he says, that overseas Filipino workers travel light when leaving the country and travel heavy when coming back. They carry only one suitcase going out and return with truckloads of boxes. Now if only these OFWs would buy Filipino, imagine what they could do for the country.

There are about a couple of million OFWs abroad, Viterbo reckons, and if only 1.5 million of them spent a thousand dollars on Filipino goods every year, they would be buying around P40 billion worth of them. In 20 years, that would mean P800 billion. If that happened, factories would boom, jobs would come aplenty, poverty would be eliminated. Eventually, the OFWs themselves would stop being OFWs and just work at home.

That was what South Korea did in the 1960s, Viterbo says, when they were still a struggling economy and many Koreans worked abroad. The South Korean government launched a policy of "Buy Korean," which the overseas workers loyally harked to. They bought their *pasalubongs* at home, not in duty-free shops. Their factories grew rapidly and diversified from making garments to making appliances, cars and even ships. Now, South Korea does not have to send out its workforce in droves to find employment elsewhere.

It's a fantastic insight. At the very least, it shows us how we have no lack of solutions to our seemingly impregnable economic woes. Viterbo's estimates are conservative at that. There are certainly more than a couple of million OFWs abroad, if you count in the "illegals"—you will probably double the figure—and they certainly spend more than a thousand bucks in *pasalubongs* each year. That is a veritable fortune lost to this country.

Little of it, if any, goes to local goods. For reasons that owe as much to our own demands on our *balikbayan* relatives as to their need to *pasiklab* or show off. No *balikbayan* shows off by buying Serg's, Café Puro and Makirina Bally, he shows off by buying Hershey's, Folger's and the real Bally. He shows off by buying the "latest" in Hong Kong and Singapore. But it's not just they who make that happen, we do too, by demanding that they show us, or better still give us, those things. Nobody appreciates being gifted a local product.

The problem, as Viterbo himself points out, is worsened by the fact that government itself abets this behavior by putting up all sorts of duty-free shops in this country. That cannot possibly encourage anyone, least of all the *balikbayans*, who are given special privileges in these shops, to buy Filipino.

How to solve this problem?

Well, first you have to know where the problem is coming from. That is nothing more or less than "colonial mentality," as Claro M. Recto and others have called it, although as some people have said, it should really be called "colonized mentality," as colonial suggests the point of view of the colonizer. But call it what you will, that's what's crippling the country—to this day. Half a century after independence was restored to us, we remain dependent in mind, if not in body—though the body itself, to go by the "Balikatan" exercises and a renewed campaign for "statehood" by some groups, remains arguable—on others. Half a century after independence, we continue to believe in our inferiority, in our helplessness, in our being fit only to be taught or guided by others. Particularly America.

I said before, and I say now, that sovereignty **can** be eaten. It is the most edible thing in the world. On the contrary, it is the lack of sovereignty that cannot be eaten. Sovereignty isn't just the physical or legal claim to a particular territory, it is mental and emotional disposition that goes with it: a fierce sense of independence, pride in one's self, passion for one's country. That is what we do not have, that kind of sovereignty, and that is what other Asians do. Singaporeans have an exaggerated view of their abilities and their products—they presume them to be better than others—but in the end, that is a most enviable attitude. That's what's allowed them to eat, or to progress in an epic way, if you don't like metaphors.

That, not quite incidentally, underscores the mortal danger of an uncritical policy of removing all protection and opening up our economy to the world. Other countries can afford to do that because they have consumers who patronize local products. Those products may be inferior to imported ones, they may even be pricier than imported ones, but they will buy them just the same. Look at the way Americans have patriotically bought America after Sept. 11. Look at the way the Chinese have bought China, Thais have bought Thai, Japanese have bought Japan even before 9-11: That is the steepest tariff wall of all, that is the stoutest protectionist barrier of all.

You unleash open trade on these shores, with Filipinos salivating for "Blue Seal" even under protectionism, and precious few local manufacturers will be left standing. It is not that they are inefficient or uncompetitive, they just have no captive market to rely on. Jollibee is not the rule, it's the exception.

That cannot be solved simply by scrapping the duty-free shops. The attitude is deeply ingrained and cannot possibly be cured by government repeating the mantra that we are helpless, we are inferior, we need the US Seventh Fleet to rid us of less than a hundred cutthroats in Basilan. And actually believing that will boost the economy! National pride doesn't just come from peremptory paeans to the heroism of the OFWs, or to boundless creativity of the Filipino, it comes from the day-to-day affirmation of it, the day-to-day practice of it.

It all comes down to a sense of country.

Alvarez at commission called a 'dramatic test case'

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

OVER THE PAST few weeks, Jesuit provincial Fr. Romeo J. Intengan, the highest official of the Jesuit order in the Philippines, like many others, has been following with keen interest the confirmation of Environment Secretary Heherson Alvarez at the Commission on Appointments. Last May 20, Intengan could no longer contain his dismay over the machinations of powerful interest groups in delaying Alvarez's confirmation. Intengan is only the latest in a growing number of citizens who have witnessed how vested interests are being upheld over merit and performance, especially in the case of Alvarez.

* * *

Intengan confessed that his very heavy workload as a major superior of a religious order should normally prevent him from taking on more work, "especially in the controversial areas of public administration and politics." But he said he took pains to write an article that he subsequently posted on the Internet, to state the issues involved in the DENR secretary's case; he also appealed for support for him because it is a "very clear and dramatic test case for people empowerment and good governance."

* * *

Intengan pointed out that the DENR secretary has undertaken many measures "that redound to the empowerment of our people, especially the poor, either by protecting the global environment or the natural resources of our country, or by directly giving the poor and disadvantaged access to the proportionate use of our natural resources, in order that they may earn a decent livelihood." Intengan said that Alvarez's decisions are "in pursuit of good governance through honest, competent and efficient public service by the DENR personnel." He then appealed to all those who believe in good governance and people empowerment to "lend your help to this good cause" of Alvarez's confirmation, arguing that the Christian faith "entails a commitment to the struggle to attain them."

Much is at stake in this struggle, argues Intengan. "Shall the cause of the common good and people empowerment be seen as having a real chance of being promoted by the government, or will it become increasingly evident that only the wealthy are heard and protected by the organs of government, and that the poor have to fend for themselves in an adverse social environment in which they are already heavily disadvantaged?"

* * *

Intengan zeroed in on three issues holding up Alvarez's confirmation. One is the lawsuit filed by Alvarez before the Ombudsman against Peter Anthony Abaya, former director of the Environment Management Bureau during Secretary Antonio Cerilles' time, for having allowed the increased importation of ozone-depleting substances in year 2000 by eight new firms that did not meet requirements, in clear violation of the Montreal Protocol to which the Philippines was a signatory.

Intengan also cited Alvarez's handling of the conflict between big mining firms and small miners in the Diwalwal area in Compostela Valley, Surigao, where he upheld social justice by striving for a win-win solution that would benefit both groups. The big miners, used to getting their way, however, have fought back through their *padrinos* in Congress, by seeking to block his confirmation. A third was Alvarez's issuance in June 2001 of Department Administrative Order 17 delineating a 15-km boundary for municipal waters, thereby protecting the small marginal fishermen against the big commercial fishing outfits, by expanding the areas reserved for the small fisherfolk.

* * *

These mining and fishing cases are very politically volatile, said Intengan, and involve a tough balancing act on Alvarez's part, in the interest of social peace and justice. It is evident, said the Jesuit superior, that a public official like Alvarez, "concerned for the social peace that is the fruit of social justice, vigilant in the defense and rehabilitation of the environment, while respectful of the legal rights and legitimate concerns of big industrialists for profits, deserves to be commended and confirmed." In fact, he said, "one wishes there were more public officials like him." Intengan asserted that those derailing Alvarez's confirmation aim "to discourage President Macapagal from reappointing him in spite of his commendable record as DENR secretary."

* * *

I have been following the confirmation hearings of Alvarez too and I share Father Intengan's dismay over how the powerful vested interests have succeeded in delaying his confirmation. There will always be opposers in every such hearing, but what amazes me about this particular case is the total absence of efforts by the vested interest groups to be subtle in their opposition.

Leading the opposers is the vice chair of the commission himself, Palawan Rep. Vicente "Brown" Sandoval, who has made no effort to hide his game plan of delaying Alvarez's confirmation by any means. Two weeks ago, when the number of opposers waiting to testify was down to only three parties, Sandoval suddenly sprang before the commission committee on environment, chaired by Sen. Ramon Magsaysay, a three-page list of requirements he demanded of Alvarez, that included both a number of witnesses and 18 documents. The nominee argued that the documents had already been submitted to the committee early on, and that the issues Sandoval is raising are repetitions.

The wonder is why Sandoval is being over-indulged by the committee. Let's hope the more decent elements in the commission don't allow the prostitution of the hearings. What is his beef against Alvarez? The latter opines that Sandoval's huge sardine fleet operating in Palawan and other places stands to suffer because of the DAO 17 15-km delineation Alvarez has ruled to implement the Fisheries Code. Then too, Sandoval is close to his Region IV colleague, Cavite Rep. Plaridel Abaya, Peter's father, and seems out to avenge him.

May rings

KRIS-CROSSING MINDANAO

Carlos Isagani T. Zarate

THAT questions still linger in Davao City almost two weeks after an explosion rocked a local hotel only suggest the degree of apprehension that residents feel concerning the series of bombing madness that of late hit several cities in Mindanao.

Recently, Davao City was on heightened red alert status because of bomb scares that followed the alleged "terrorist" bombings that hit the cities of General Santos and Cotabato. Yet, despite the red alert, the bomb that exploded on May 16 at the Evergreen Hotel, located at the city's "Chinatown" and frequented by budget-conscious foreign tourists, had placed the authorities in a frenzy. The lone blast fatality, identified as Michael Terrence Meiring, a 65-year-old British-American surgeon from California, was a regular guest of the hotel and had been in and out of Davao for the past 10 years. Meiring's seriously injured legs had to be amputated. The blast also razed a portion of the hotel.

After the blast, police and local officials were, however, quick to deny that the bombing was related to terrorism. Meiring was declared to be a mere treasure hunter who was apparently victimized by dynamite he brought along with him on that day. End of the story? Not really. Like perhaps a Ludlum novel, the plot of the story thickens.

Among others, the May 16 blast also made a "casualty" of the then officer in charge of the Davao City Police Office, Supt. Samuel Yordan, who was relieved from his post by Regional Police Director Eduardo Matillano for security lapses.

It also brought to the fore the way bomb suspects are treated which largely depends on their racial profile.

"'*Yan ang mahirap, pag mga* Muslim *ang hinuli na* suspects *daw sa* bombings, *mga terorista kaagad, pero pag* foreigner, *hindi*," a non-commissioned police officer told me. The officer was partly referring to the dawn raid conducted by the elements of the police regional command in neighboring Sta. Cruz, Davao del Sur on May 1, the day President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo visited Davao City. The raid resulted in the arrest of three and the killing of an Islamic teacher and a 13-year-old boy. The police asserted there was an encounter but residents in the area said that the two fatalities were killed while sleeping.

The aftermath of the blast also pricked the minds of conspiracy theorists. In a poll conducted by a local TV station, most of the respondents believed that Meiring is not just an ordinary treasure hunter.

"He is a CIA agent." "He is a member of the al-Qaida." "He is a Mafia member."

That Meiring is no ordinary tourist or treasure hunter seemed not baseless.

At the hospital where he was brought, no members of the media, not even the local police, were allowed to come near his room. Thus, the city was again caught by surprise when Meiring disappeared from the hospital where he was confined. Media reports claimed he was "rescued" from the hospital on May 19, accompanied by no less than a US Embassy official, a certain Vice Consul Michael Newhill, together with two heavily armed Americans, reportedly FBI agents. A chartered plane flew Meiring, still in critical condition, out of Davao directly to Singapore. Charges against him were filed only last Wednesday, three days after he had flown the coop.

Who really is Meiring? Why did US Embassy officials accord him special treatment if he was just an ordinary treasure hunter? What was he doing in Southern Mindanao for the past 10 years? Why was he in possession of explosives? Was he alone in his activities in Davao or was he with other conspirators? These, and many other questions will surely be raised until such time that Meiring's case will no longer have a suspicious tone.

* * *

I congratulate the organizers of the recently concluded First Mindanao Media Summit which convened editors, publishers, TV and radio station managers all over the island to discuss issues and concerns facing the Mindanao media. In a covenant, they vowed to "exercise power and responsibility to ensure that the public is given a balanced and accurate understanding of events and processes in Mindanao today."

The participants also established a historic first—the Mindanao Media Forum—which is tasked to ensure the sustainability of their action plans and to serve as a venue for discussions on media trends and practices.

* * *

I believe that Senate Bill 2110 filed by Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr. must be given a serious look. The bill guarantees the people's right of reply to false or misleading reports by the media. For instance, I was unfairly and falsely reported in an ABS-CBN Davao report to have been caught violating Davao City's Anti-Smoking Ordinance during a raid at the Matina Town Square Taboan restobar last May 14. The report said that while several others were booked for the violation, I was spared because I used my influence as a "human rights lawyer."

I admit that I am a smoker. But there is a wide difference between actually caught smoking and being caught in possession of a pack of cigarettes, which was what actually happened. It was prudent for the police to realize such a difference but apparently not with ABS-CBN which repeatedly ran the footage out of context. If I did not call the station, they would not have bothered to hear my side of the story. I am aware and understand the city government's concern for the strict implementation of existing anti-smoking ordinances. This was precisely the reason why we chose to go to an establishment where there is a designated smoking area as allowed under existing city ordinances.

* * *

Comments at karlos_z23@hotmail.com or kar_laws@yahoo.com

A few to inspire the many

COMMENTARY

Dean Jorge Bocobo

THE PHILIPPINE team bagged 2 gold medals, 10 silver medals and 3 bronze medals at the recently concluded Fourth Invitational World Youth Mathematics Intercity Competition held on May 2 to 7 at Lucknow, India. The world's best young mathematicians were organized into 61 teams from 12 countries, including traditional powerhouses Hong Kong, Taiwan, Finland, China and India, and sent into friendly but sharp mental combat.

Competing against the best and the brightest from these other countries were 16 young Filipinos, 15 of whom won medals in a towering feat of long preparation, arduous training and courageous execution, at par with anything in the Olympics. Although the big win has not yet attracted the attention of the media, it is already sending waves of pride and inspiration into the mathematics and science teaching communities here. And just so it may not be said that the Philippine media mostly ignore certain kinds of news in favor of the usual politics-and-show-biz fare, let today's commentary be a possible scoop for our favorite newspaper, and a bromide for our usual bad news woes.

Dr. Simon L. Chua, president of the Mathematics Trainers Guild of the Philippines, joined his team leaders and the international judging committee in announcing the big win for Filipino mathematicians and in praising the Philippine team for its outstanding performance.

The team included gold medallists **Alvin Edward S. Gillo** (Pasay City Chong Hua High School) and **Michael Joseph N. Tan** of (Zamboanga Chong Hua High School). The silver medallists were **Jed Ericson C. Lee** and **Johnson Gamboa** (Grace Christian High School); **Charles Erick T. Co** (St. Peter the Apostle School); **David Joseph N. Tan, Jimson G. Ngeo, Kendrick C. Saavedra** and **Elvis T. Chua** (Zamboanga Chong Hua High School); **David T. So** (Saint Stephen High School); **Raymond A. Salvador** (Jesus is Lord High School); and **David Wan** (Philippine Cultural High School). The bronze medallists were **Richmond C. Saavedra** (Zamboanga), **Jan Henri Ma** (Trinity Christian School) and **Roland Joseph Robles** (Philippine Cultural). **Lloyd Neilsen Chiong** won a merit award.

The entire Philippine team worked hard for nearly a year preparing for the competition. Training team leaders were Isidro Aguilar and Robert Degulacion, with deputies Lita Gamboa, Josefina Robles and Nelly Lee. Support came from parents and friends of the Math Trainer's Guild, including the patronage of Sanet Hipolito, Benson Tan, Andrew del Mundo and Samuel Gayangos.

Together with Simon Chua, the luminaries on the international organizing committee included several famous mathematicians, such as Peter Taylor of the Australia Math Trust and Tim Sanders of the US Great Plains Math League. There was also Shakuntala Devi, an Indian arithmetic wizard, whom some may remember from the '60s when she came to the Philippines as a young prodigy from India. She is in the 1980 Guinness Book of World Records for mentally multiplying two 13-digit numbers and correctly giving the answer in 28 seconds. I became a mathematician at heart one day in 1968 in the La Salle Green Hills auditorium, when Devi unerringly reeled off a long string of digits I had taken days to compute by hand!

I had a similar experience when I first met Simon Chua a few months ago. I knew him simply as the principal of Zamboanga Chong Hua High School and a modest, unassuming and unpretentious man. His tall, lanky frame, matches well his quiet, easy demeanor, which only now and then, reveals the fire of intellectual intensity within.

When I talked to him last Friday about the big win in India, he seemed to have lost a lot of weight. The spicy food in the Land of Shakuntala Devi did not agree with him. But he was plainly elated at how well the Filipino team did. It was a great privilege for me to converse with him about mathematics and the Philippine education system.

Little-known outside of education circles, Simon Chua is actually a major force propelling this country forward, toward a destiny of achievement and a future full of good things. Aside from his tireless endeavors as MTG guild master training other math teachers and preparing Philippine teams for international math competitions, Simon Chua is one of the rare breed of Filipinos who has been writing math textbooks of the most rigorous quality and uncompromising standards. As such, he is a teacher of millions. He is among our precious few who can inspire the many, to break the mold of mediocrity and aspire to the highest calling of humanity which is to conquer with our brains, what we never shall, with our brawn, or usual braggadocio.

What is worthy of note for policymakers and newspaper readers, is that the entire effort reported here comes from the private schools, which are truly leading the way in mathematics and science education. Their curriculum and teaching methods ought to be emulated in the public schools. We are lucky that the Department of Education has increased mathematics teaching time in the public schools from 40 minutes per day to 60 minutes per day in the proposed new Basic Education Curriculum, even if the DepEd has also, paradoxically, reduced the science teaching time.

The private schools won't follow that example and will keep their science subjects at high priority, because they know that the jobs and careers of the future are being taken by people and nations with math and science backgrounds. The long-term viability of the nation depends critically on education in these hard subjects because only poverty and unceasing strife awaits any nation that cannot make itself useful to the rest of humanity. You don't need to be a math genius to know that.

No requiem songs for newspapers yet

READERS' ADVOCATE

Raul J. Palabrica

WITH THE NEW school year set to start in a few days, I am reminded of the question a journalism student asked me early this year about the future of newspapers in the Philippines.

She asked: "Against the competition posed by radio, TV and the Internet, is there a future for newspapers?"

Radio stations have up-to-the minute reports of unfolding events. The television stations can send their crew anywhere in the country for on-the-spot coverage of breaking news.

Then there is the Internet where websites operated by local and foreign news agencies can keep the computer-literate persons abreast of the news 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

She is worried the print media may go the way of telex or telegrams that became obsolete when facsimile machines came into the scene.

This early, she wants to know if she should change her field of specialty and prepare for a career in radio or TV broadcasting, or take additional units in computer programming for possible Internet work after graduation.

I told the forward-looking student that her fears about newspapers becoming Jurassic anytime soon are unfounded. There is nothing in the horizon that should make her worry about the future of the profession she wants to enter.

Audiences

The different modes of mass communications in the country today have separate and distinct audiences. Although they appear to be competing with each other, in reality, they complement each other. They fulfill the information needs of different levels of our society.

Radio delivers information at scheduled times. Its biggest advantage, compared to newspapers, is that their listeners can tune in without having to stop doing anything else.

So one can keep abreast of the latest news while driving to work, preparing food or while engaged in any other activity. There is practically no limit as to what things a person can do while the radio is on. The same thing, however, cannot be said of newspapers because going through their pages requires some form of concentration.

Unfortunately, once something has been said or broadcast on radio, that's the end of it. If you want to hear it again to, say, analyze its contents, you either have to pre-record it or call up the radio station to request its replay. Now, who is the radio listener who will go through those lengths to satisfy his curiosity about particular broadcasts?

The same scenario applies to television. But unlike radio where the listener has to visualize things as they are reported, TV viewers can "see" and hear the news. Time constraints, however, prevent TV stations from breaking their regular programming to give way to news reports. The advertisers will raise a howl if the showing of their commercials are abruptly out or suspended.

Like radio, those interested in watching TV news have to wait for the scheduled news programs, unless they are hooked up with CNN or other news channels that are engaged in 24 hours news reporting.

News at hand

Although newspapers do not have the same capability as radio and TV to report the news as they happen and in living color, there is something in print media that sets it apart from their broadcast counterparts.

The most important distinction is depth and substance. Newspapers can write about other angles in a story that radio and TV are forced to ignore because of time restrictions. Items in the news that may appear obscure but are replete with human interest find a convenient venue in the newspapers.

When the MV Carmela sank last April 11, the INQUIRER carried the news about the event with the headline "Mama, where are you?" superimposed over a distant shot of the sinking boat. A reader complained that the headline was improper. It should have read something like "40 die in sea mishap."

According to the editor in chief, she thought of writing the headline suggested but decided against it because the radio stations had already broadcast the number of casualties. Why repeat something that is already known to everybody?

Instead, she focused on an important angle that was not touched by radio and TV—human anguish and suffering. Thus, the INQUIRER came out with first person accounts of the survivors that the broadcast media were unable to air because of time constraints. The readers were given in-depth information about the tragedy, not the usual number of casualties and statements of government officials.

By the nature of their presentation, newspapers provide an opportunity for their readers to comprehend or reflect on the news reports. Something that is not readily available when the news is given quickly and in short blasts because the clock is ticking.

Another edge newspapers enjoy in relation to their broadcast counterpart is easy availability. The reader can read the papers anytime he wants or as his schedule may permit, or re-read it any number of times he wants if he cannot understand its contents the first time around.

Unlike radio and TV broadcasts, newspaper reports, editorials and columns can be stored, clipped, photocopied and passed around with the least inconvenience and without losing their original substance and content.

With regard to the Internet, there is similarly no reason to be concerned as far as its effect on newspaper readership is concerned. The number of Filipinos who have access to cyberspace is very minimal. With the high cost of computers and Internet service, only those who have substantial disposable income can afford that service.

Unlike the developed countries, the Philippines has not reached that level of sophistication where the majority of its people tap on newspaper websites to meet their information requirements. It will take a very, very long time (if at all) for the Internet to be a meaningful source of information for our people.

With some 40 (and still growing) broadsheets and tabloids circulating all over the country, the newspaper industry does not appear to be on the verge of extinction or under serious threat from its media counterpart.

Talk about the forthcoming demise of newspapers because of modern means of mass communications is simply exaggerated.

* * *

The readers' advocate may be reached at the following address: "The Readers' Advocate" c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces Avenue corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City. Or through fax nos. 897-4793 to 94, or readersadvocate@inquirer.com.ph.

LETTERS

An RDC for the NCR?

AMONG THE Metro Manila cities, only Marikina was adjudged one of the most livable cities during the recently concluded Philippine Cities Competitive Ranking 2001 held last April 26 at the New World Renaissance Hotel in Makati City. The forum, sponsored by the Asian Institute of Management, made use of the following criteria: (1) cost of doing business; (2) dynamism of local economy; (3) infrastructure; (4) linkages and accessibility; (5) quality of human resources; (6) responsiveness of local officials; and (5) quality of life.

Attending the forum as representative from the Bicol region, I met Raul Verceles, a *kababayan* and now planning director at the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority. Verceles told me that Metro Manila cities are not able to compete well with the promising cities in the South because of the unique situation of the metropolis. However, Verceles said that Metro Manila would retain its prestige as the country's premiere region if the major stakeholders such as the 17 local government units, all national line agencies and the private sector could truly come together and make a difference in attaining the vision for a world-class and livable metropolis. This, according to Verceles, can be best achieved through the establishment of a Regional Development Council for the National Capital Region.

In fact, according to Verceles, while the MMDA and other major players in Metro Manila are waiting for the approval of the President of the draft executive order establishing the NCR-RDC, the MMDA is now asserting this role initially by conducting this May an investment programming review of agency programs and projects.

Indeed, a good idea, especially during this time that the MMDA is facing an abolition move in Congress. After accepting the fact that it has no legislative power, a flaw in Republic Act 7924 (the law which created the MMDA), the authority (through the Metro Manila Mayors Council) can now fully exercise its development planning functions by way of constituting itself into an RDC. That way, the public may be well informed that the authority is not merely in charge of traffic and garbage, but also of the overall urban development of the metropolis. An RDC for Metro Manila could be the best planning strategy that could effectively address the myriad urban problems and issues of Metro Manila. With the RDC in place, the vision for a livable and world-class metropolis may soon become a reality for the country's premier region.

—JOSELITO L. NAVERA, 97 J.P. Rizal St., UP Diliman, Quezon City

Hybrid rice in 30% of nation's rice lands

THIS is to respond to the letter of Roberto Verzola regarding hybrid rice. I was a participant in crafting the program design for the hybrid rice commercialization in my capacity as a consultant to the million jobs program.

Verzola raised three concerns. Let me tackle them one by one.

First, I explained that the program does not serve the interests of private seed companies. In the 2002 wet season cropping, about 70 percent of the seed supply will come from small seed growers dispersed nationwide. Only 30 percent of the seed requirements is to be provided by private seed companies. We will keep this policy until the end of the program. It is our only means to ensure that small farmers continue to control the seeds. It is also our strategy to push rice-producing provinces to become self-sufficient and source their seeds locally.

The P1,200 subsidy for seeds is not for seed growers but for farmers. The current international price for hybrid seeds is P2,400 per bag. We are buying from the growers at this price. Verzola was right in saying that the 50-percent subsidy is meant for the farmers to shift to hybrid rice farming. We believe this to be justifiable. We are convinced that the subsidy reduces the risks and increases the cost recovery of farmers. We are also convinced that by developing hybrid rice cultivators, we are putting the Filipino farmers at par with their Thai or Vietnamese counterparts in terms of yield performance.

Second, I also explained that the hybrid rice program advocates the adoption of balanced fertilization and integrated pest management programs of the Department of Agriculture (DA). For years now, these two programs in plant care have been the core message of DA-trained technicians. As such, PhilRice promotes them vigorously, too.

But, in practical terms, the program cannot ignore farmers who prefer and continue to use fertilizers and agro-chemicals. In cases like this, technical advice is given to farmers, by providing soil analysis services, free of charge, and through a site-specific farm plan prepared by technicians. Hence, the use of inorganic fertilizers and agro-chemicals are premised on the obtaining soil composition of their farms, and in accordance with the farmers' choice. Loan releases are likewise anchored on the submission of the soil analysis results as certified by a publicly owned soil laboratory.

There are other features of the program which I explained to Verzola but this space will not allow me to elaborate on it. Anyone may however wish to request briefings on this issue by sending your e-mail to millionjobs@edsamail.com.ph. We will schedule one for you, or your group.

In closing, let me just say that hybrid rice farming will cover only 300,000 hectares from the total 2.3 million hectares of land planted to rice, in three years. This represents only a tiny fraction of the total rice lands. But, during the road shows we conducted, several cooperatives agreed with the program and believed it to be fundamentally sound. Though it may be far from perfect, it certainly is an improved version of previous rice production programs. Undeniably, the intention is noble as it seeks to end rice importation and attain food sufficiency in 2004 or sooner.

It is difficult to judge what strategy is correct, or wrong. The only way to ascertain its soundness are the scientific evidence available on hybrid farming and the social acceptability of the model. So far, in the 42,000 hectares we have visited, we have been successful in both. I told Verzola to lobby for budgetary support for the Madagascar model. Afma has a rice program budget covering certified, registered and other seeds. Madagascar can be funded from this Afma fund. Once adopted by the DA, it can be closely watched for adoption nationwide.

Finally, let me say that what comforts the program a great deal is that our hybrid rice farming strategy was borrowed from China—the Huan Longpin model that brought success to the Chinese in their bid for food sufficiency. This Magsaysay awardee developed the hybrid variety and shared it with the Philippines through collaborative work in PhilRice. What we simply did was bring it out of the laboratory, commercialized the variety and distributed the seeds to farmers.

This month is the first commercial trial of hybrid rice and I appeal for patience until enough field days are conducted. There are five more croppings until 2004. That is enough time to assess program effectiveness. Meantime, let us have "a hundred rice production models blossom, and a thousand thoughts contend." This is the only way to find the true path to self-sufficiency.

—TETCHI CRUZ-CAPELLAN, fellow, Philippine Competitiveness Institute, Ortigas, Pasig City

A perspective on the PPA

THERE seems to be considerable confusion and misunderstanding about the purchased power adjustment (PPA), what caused it and why it is there.

Let me try to explain it. When Fidel V. Ramos came to power in 1992, we were suffering eight- to 10-hour blackouts almost every day. The industry was coming to a standstill, or being forced to buy standby generators that were far more expensive than anything we are paying now. Companies were laying off workers as power failures caused lack of business. The economy was under serious threat of collapse.

President Ramos asked for, and was granted, emergency powers to fast-track the purchase of power stations. Speed was the underlying—and overwhelmingly important—criteria. We needed electricity fast and cost became a secondary consideration. We weren't in a strong bargaining position. To attract those power stations, promises of a guaranteed (financial) return had to be made or they wouldn't come.

He promised lights for Christmas (1993) and we had them. From then on, the economic future looked rosy and the economy was expected—as it grew—to demand more and more power, so it didn't seem too great a risk. And until 1997, such was the case.

But then, the Thailand-triggered Asian financial crisis hit us. And not long after, Joseph Estrada came to power, with all the disastrous economic consequences of his mismanagement.

So today, we are saddled with cost commitments that were unforeseen. But the costs would have been far, far worse if Ramos hadn't acted as he did. To blame him for the problem is the height of absurdity.

No doubt an exhaustive investigation can uncover some unsound decisions by various people, but it's easy to be critical in hindsight. No one can read the future, so any investigation should weigh the decision against the facts and expectations known at the time.

Which brings us to the situation today. The country has legal commitments it cannot abrogate without due cause unless it is willing to become an international pariah, where no one will invest, lend, or give support. Then, I can assure you, we will be in a much worse situation.

Some mutually agreeable renegotiations may succeed, and should be tried. Suspicions of overcharging must be correctly allayed. And if some contracts were flawed or could be proven to be corrupt, legal action should be taken.

But, in the end, the bulk of the commitment must be paid. And only one group can pay for it: electricity consumers. There is no one else. There is no such entity as "the government." The government is us, the taxpayers. We can be billed as electricity consumers, or as taxpayers. Either way we pay.

The PPA is a cost recovery mechanism to pay back the investors in power plants. The government found it reasonable at that time, as it was expected that all the electricity would be needed. That it wasn't was because of unforeseeable events explained above. So now the overall costs must be absorbed by a smaller-than-expected level of consumption.

The only viable solution is to invigorate the economy. Attract more investments, create more jobs, stimulate more demand. Let the electricity reform act take its course. And, yes, stop the politicking.

—PETER WALLACE, president, The Wallace Business Forum, 14/F, Sagittarius Bldg., HV dela Costa St., Makati City

IF you have any complaints, grievances or suggestions about the treatment of news and photos by the Inquirer, you may write to the Readers' Advocate, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces Avenue, corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, City of Makati or send a fax to Nos. 897-4793, 897-4794, or e-mail readersadvocate@inquirer.com.ph

Writers of letters to the editor are requested to include their complete address and telephone or pager number or e-mail address for verification purposes. The Inquirer will not publish any letter unless such information is supplied.

you.
yours.
Get a chance to
win a vacation house
and free trips abroad each time you fly
Cebu Pacific. Join Cebu Pacific's Great Escape Raffle now.
Robinsons Homes, Inc.
Appliances

CEBU PACIFIC
Great Escape
RAFFLE PROMO

1. All full-paying passengers (domestic and outbound Manila-Hong Kong flights) traveling from February 4 to July 4, 2002 are qualified to join the raffle.

2. Write your name, address, phone number, and affix your signature, flight date and flight number on the raffle coupon.

3. Drop the raffle coupon in drop boxes located at all Cebu Pacific Pre-Departure Areas, airport & organic ticket offices nationwide.

4. Deadline for submission of entries are as follows:

First Grand Draw:
On or before 12MN on April 28, 2002
Second Grand Draw:
On or before 12MN on July 4, 2002

5. Winners will be drawn on the following dates in the presence of a DTI representative:

First Grand Draw: May 6, 2002
Second Grand Draw: July 11, 2002

6. Raffle draws will be in Cebu Pacific's Airline Operations Center, Terminal I, Domestic Airport, Paranaque, Metro Manila at 5 PM.

7. Winners must present their claim stub and registered mail together with any two (2) of the following valid IDs with picture: School ID, Company ID, TIN Card, SSS Card, Credit Card or Passport.

See posters for more details.

Per DTI Permit No. 0179, series of 2002

The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

Rough seas hinder search for crash victims

PENGHU, Taiwan—Rough seas slowed the search Sunday for bodies and debris from a China Airlines flight to Hong Kong that crashed in the Taiwan Strait with 225 people on board. One day after the accident, no survivors were found and 35 bodies were pulled from the oily water that reeked of fuel.

Swells up to three meters high battered the fishing boats and coast guard ships scanning the crash site north of the Taiwanese island chain of Penghu, about 50 km off Taiwan's western coast.

Officials still did not know what caused the crash of Flight CI611, which went down Saturday afternoon about 20 minutes after taking off from Taipei. The pilots did not send distress signals before the Boeing 747-200 disappeared from radar screens.

Tsai Duei, a vice transportation minister, initially told reporters that the jetliner apparently broke apart in the sky, but he later said that investigators were still uncertain about what happened to the plane. He would not say if an explosion caused the accident.

"We still can't offer an analysis on the cause," he said.

James L.S. Chang, a China Airlines vice president, also would not speculate on a possible cause of the crash. But he said the accident was strange.

"At such a high altitude of 10,600 meters, to have something go wrong—and the pilot didn't even have time to send a distress signal. Now, that's a big question mark," Chang said.

Earlier Sunday, rescue and military officials said they detected beacon signals from the plane's flight data and voice recorders, or "black boxes."

But later, Tsai said that the reports were premature because the signals were high frequency, and underwater signals should be low frequency. The signals received might have come from nearby ships, he said.

Near the crash site Sunday morning, the smell of fuel was thick in the air, and there was a rainbow-colored glimmer on the sea from a fuel slick as big as a football field.

Rescue officials said 35 bodies have been found: 21 women, 12 men and two infants. The passengers included 190 Taiwanese, 14 people from Macau and Hong Kong, one Singaporean and one Swiss citizen.

The Boeing 747-200 had been flying for 22 years, and China Airlines was to retire the jet next month and deliver it to the small Orient Thai Airline, which had already purchased the aircraft, China Airlines said. Orient Thai flies from Bangkok to Hong Kong and Incheon, South Korea, the carrier's ticketing office said Sunday.

China Airlines said the aircraft was safe, well-maintained and had been completely overhauled last year. **AP**

Rivals Taiwan, China set aside 53-year grudge

TAIPEI, Taiwan—The crash of a Taiwanese airliner inspired a rare moment of cooperation Sunday between Taiwan and China.

The China Airlines flight with 225 people aboard went down Saturday in the Taiwan Strait, the 160-kilometer-wide body of water that separates the island of Taiwan from mainland China. The two rivals split amid civil war in 1949.

The plane crashed in Taiwan's half of the strait, but strong currents were carrying bodies into waters controlled by China, said Taiwanese Premier Yu Shyi-kun.

Taiwanese Defense Minister Tang Yiau-ming said the two sides had a tacit agreement that Taiwan's military ships would be allowed to search for crash victims in Chinese waters, Taiwan's state-run radio station Broadcasting Corp. of China reported. **AP**

Kin of crash victims display anger, sorrow

MAKUNG, Taiwan—A change of travel plans by 58-year-old Yeh U-ming meant he was among the 225 people who are feared to have perished when a China Airlines plane crashed into the sea off Taiwan, his daughter said Sunday.

"He had planned to take a flight on Friday. But he could not make it on Friday, so he changed the schedule to Saturday," said the 25-year-old woman, who declined to give her name.

She was visibly angry, complaining that rescuers had failed to find her father's body a day after the planed crashed into the sea off of Taiwan's Penghu Islands, also known as the Pescadores.

"All China Airlines could do was to ask us to wait . . . The air carrier should shut down after so many people were killed in several major air tragedies," she said.

The woman and other distraught relatives of crash victims had the painful task of identifying the bodies of their loved ones.

As of midday Sunday 35 bodies, including those of 21 women and two children, had been retrieved by military rescuers after Premier Yu Shyi-kun ordered a round-the-clock search.

Officials said they feared all those on board the ill-fated Boeing 747-200 jumbo jet on a flight from Taipei to Hong Kong were dead.

The relatives, many of them weeping, submitted DNA samples to help with identification of the bodies contained in bags in a makeshift mortuary in a military stadium.

Some relatives were receiving counseling at a hospital.

"The government must continue the search until all the passengers are found, dead or alive," a weeping daughter of passenger Chung Ling-chung told AFP.

Seven members of the Chung family, from the northern city of Chungli, had been on the doomed flight. They had been on their way to Hong Kong to change planes and head for a tour of northeastern China.

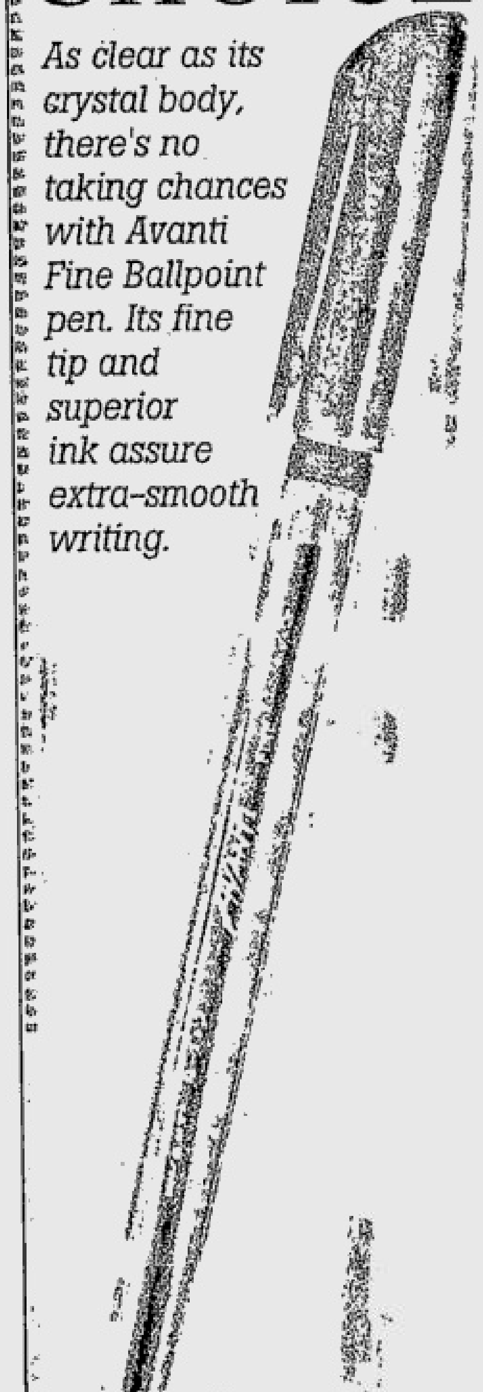
Volunteers from the Buddhist Tzu Chi Relief Foundation, which has millions of followers worldwide, kept up chants of Buddhist mantras at the makeshift mortuary.

Tzu Chi volunteer Chen Pao-yuan told AFP: "We hope the prayers would help soothe the souls."

Taoist and Christian organizations also sent volunteers to help comfort the families. **AFP**

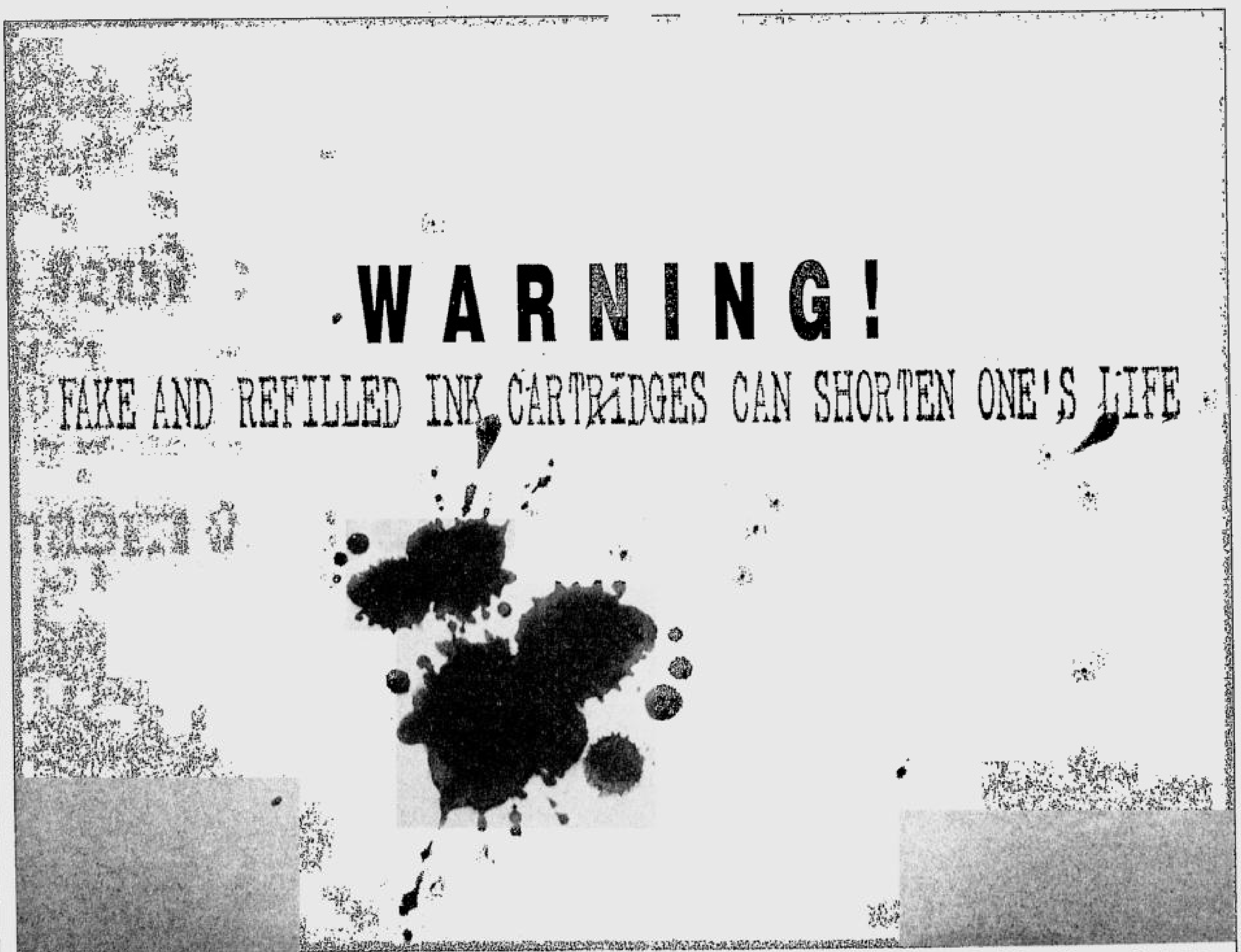
ABOT KAYA ang PRESYO!
40% OFF
CASH BASIS
May 31- June 1 2002
ON ALL SERVICES NATIONWIDE
PRESENT THIS FOR A FREE SHOELACE FOR P100 MIN. PURCHASE ON MAY 31- JUNE 1 only
Ang Shoe Repair Shop ng Bayan
MR. QUICKIE
Mabilis. Maayos. Parang bago ang sapatos.
Per DTI-NCR Permit no.0923 series of 2002
shoe repair • dyeing • shine • expand • bag repair • key duplication • knife sharpening

The CLEAR CHOICE
As clear as its crystal body, there's no taking chances with Avanti Fine Ballpoint pen. Its fine tip and superior ink assure extra-smooth writing.



So make your choice clear...
AVANTI FINE
BALLPOINT PEN
Available in blue, black and red colors.
Distributed by:
CBS, INC.
Member: Sterling Paper Group of Companies
2302 Sterling Place Pasong Tamo Ext., Makati City
Tel.: 813-7628 (connecting all depts.)
Available in all leading bookstores and department stores nationwide.

WARNING!
FAKE AND REFILLED INK CARTRIDGES CAN SHORTEN ONE'S LIFE

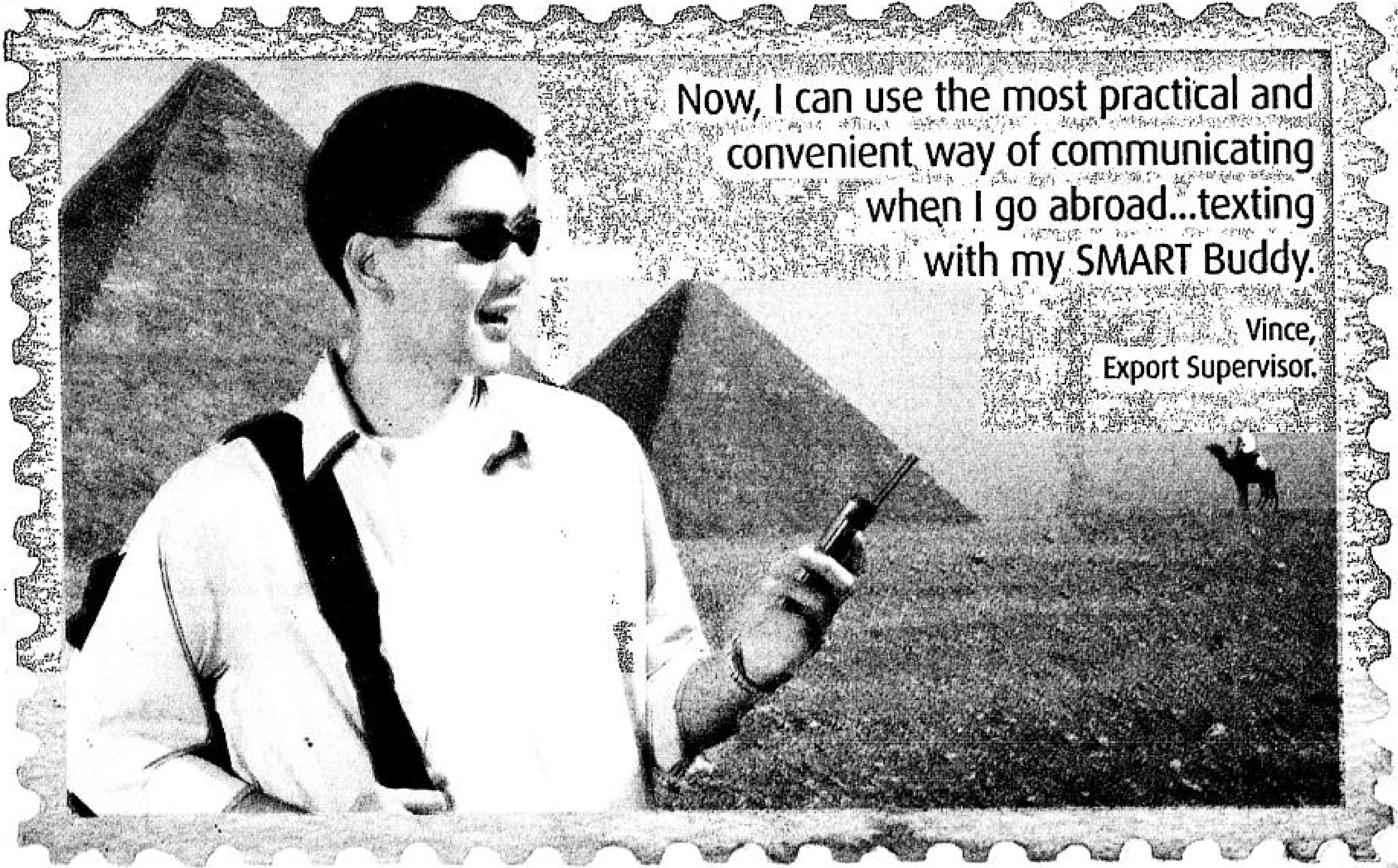


The life span of your printer. Refilled ink cartridges are not properly absorbed by the printer's waste ink absorber thus making the printer prone to defects. Plus, using fake and refilled inks will render your printer warranty null and void. To preserve the life of your printer---use only original inks.

USE ONLY ORIGINAL CANON INK CARTRIDGES FOR BEST RESULTS!
Canon

Canon Marketing (Philippines) Inc. Harvin Plaza Bldg., 2153 Don Chino Roces Ave., Makati City Tel. Nos. 812-6047 / 812-6076 to 79 E-mail Address: info@canon.com.ph Branch Offices: CMP-BATAAN Dilig Bldg., Manuel Banzon St., Balanga, Bataan Tel No. (047) 237-2151 • CMP-CEBU Door 10, IP & 20 Free Star Arcade Hernan Cortes St., Subangdaku Mandaue City Tel. No. (032) 345-3680, (032) 345-3821, Fax No. (032) 345-3691 • CMP-DAVAO Door 1 Navigators Bldg., Ponce cor. Gempesaw St., Davao City Tel. No. (082) 222-3392 • CMP-LA UNION Ground Floor M. Peralta Bldg., Quezon Ave., Sevilla Norte, San Fernando City, La Union Tel. No. (072) 242-0440, (072) 242-4587 • CMP-LEGASPI Door 7 & 8 CEA Bldg., Ground Floor, Lapu-Lapu St., Legaspi City Tel. No. (052) 480-6331, (052) 214-3863
Distributors: Astech Pengson Rm. 808 Cityland Condominium 10 Tower 1 H.V. dela Costa St., Salcedo Village Makati City, Tel Nos. 893-2519 to 27 Fax No. 819-0145 / 893-1763 • Dillshe Trading Co. 141 D. Tuazon St., Sta Mesa Heights Quezon City, Tel Nos. 740-1888 to 91 / 740-0130 to 31 Fax No. 740-0129 • Hytech Integrated Products Inc. 9 Campanilla St., New Manila Quezon City Tel No. 722-1122 / 413-8899 Fax No. 726-9361 • LAMCO International Suite 1804 East Tower Philippine Stock Exchange Centre Bldg., Exchange Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City, Tel No. 634-7959 / 687-2395 Fax No. 687-2395

Simply Global



Now, I can use the most practical and convenient way of communicating when I go abroad...texting with my SMART Buddy.

Vince,
Export Supervisor.

Fin
my
prep
Dad
alon
over

Sharo
Comm

Introducing the first and only pr

SMART Buddy Interna

Send and receive text messages from

SMART
Buddy GSM
Pre-paid
International Text
Roaming

SMART Buddy, the prepaid wireless service of SMART, now goes international. Wit
send and receive text messages in over 100 countries! Yes, even if your service
technology and our partnerships with over 200 networks worldwide. And all for
You can even access SMART zed and SMART Money services while you're abroad t
Just key-in ROAM ON and send to 333 at least 1 hour before your flight. So
anyone with a SMART Buddy celfone, you can enjoy world class texting

For all pre-paid subscribers on SMART's GSM network. Questions? Comments? Concerns? Call the SMART hotline at 888-1111, text us at 888

lly, I can use
SMART Buddy
aid whenever
lets me tag
g on his trips
seas.

Arts Student.

Now that I can text my family
in Manila everyday, they
don't worry as much.

Gina,
Overseas Worker.

epaid wireless service of its kind:

tional Text Roaming.

over 100 countries - for only ₱15/send.

h SMART Buddy International Text Roaming, you can
s prepaid. Thanks to SMART's amazing breakthrough
the lowest prepaid roaming text rate of only ₱15.
o for only ₱17.50 per send. It's so easy to activate!
f you're a student, employee, OFW or absolutely
with SMART Buddy International Text Roaming.

r email us at customercare@smart.com.ph or visit the SMART Wireless Center nearest you.

SMART
Simply Amazing!

Pakistan conducts 2nd missile test

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan—Pakistan conducted its second missile test in as many days Sunday as the international community struggled to pull India and Pakistan, two nuclear neighbors, back from the brink of war.

Sunday's test was the first for the short-range Hatf-III or Ghaznavi missile, which is believed to be capable of carrying a nuclear warhead.

With a range of 290 km this new surface-to-surface missile can hit border regions of neighbor India, where nearly one million soldiers face off against each other.

Despite international pleas that the two neighbors ease tensions, Pakistan on Saturday began a series of missile tests, which will continue until Tuesday. Pakistan says the tests have nothing to do with the current situation. India says it is not worried.

On Saturday Pakistan tested the medium range surface-to-surface ballistic missile called the Ghauri missile. Both the Ghauri and Ghaznavi missiles are capable of carrying conventional and nuclear warheads.

The Ghauri missile has a range of 1,500 km, far enough to reach deep into India.

The tests come as both Pakistan and India are on a war-footing, cross-border shelling across the disputed Kashmir has increased dramatically and dozens of villagers in both India and Pakistan have been killed.

As tensions have escalated residents on both sides of the disputed border have been fleeing.

The Ghaznavi missile is "indigenously developed and the test firing was the culmination of years of hard work, dedication and professional excellence of Pakistani scientists and engineers," said an Army statement Sunday.

As the world scrambled to try to avert a war, that could escalate into a nuclear conflagration on the Asian subcontinent, Russian President Vladimir Putin Saturday said he would invite the leaders of India and Pakistan to Kazakhstan for one-on-one talks early next month to try to prevent their conflict from escalating.

Pakistan says it is ready to talk, while India says it wants Pakistan to end cross-border incursions by Islamic militants waging a bloody insurgency in Indian-ruled Kashmir, demanding either outright independence for the divided Himalayan State or union with Islamic Pakistan.

US President George Bush on Saturday urged Musharraf to make good on his promise to curb Islamic militancy.

"We're deeply concerned about the rhetoric. It is very important for President Musharraf to . . . do what he said he's going to do . . . on terror, and that is stop the incursions across the line," Bush said.

The disputed Kashmir, divided between Pakistan and India, has been the flashpoint of two previous wars between the uneasy neighbors in 1948 and in 1965. They fought a third war in 1971 over Bangladesh, or what was then East Pakistan.

Relations between the two neighbors has always been troubled, but tensions soared in December after the Indian Parliament was attacked. India blamed Pakistan-based Islamic insurgents.

The threat of war loomed then and India conducted missile tests of its own.

Musharraf went on national television in January and outlawed five militant Islamic groups easing tensions somewhat. But last week's assault on an Indian army camp that killed 34 people, most of them wives and children of Indian soldiers, sent tensions soaring again. India again accused Pakistani-based militants.

Pakistan says its support is moral and diplomatic and is demanding a vote be held in Kashmir in line with a 1948 United Nations resolution to let Kashmiris decide whether a united Kashmir would join India or Pakistan. *AP*

INDIAN soldiers walk past missiles positioned close to the border with Pakistan near Amritsar amid fears of war between the two nuclear-armed South Asian rivals. REUTERS

Bush, Putin in celebratory mood

ST. PETERSBURG, Russia—US President George W. Bush praised steps toward religious freedom in Russia, ending his three-day visit Sunday with a stop at a historic synagogue and worship at a Russian Orthodox church that was a monument to atheism under Soviet rule.

"One of my strong beliefs is that people should be free to worship, and I'm pleased that is taking place in Russia," Bush said outside Grand Choral Synagogue. "It is important for this country that religious freedom flourish and that there be tolerance for all faiths."

The synagogue, here in the hometown of Russian President Vladimir Putin, remained open during the Soviet era, but Jews who came to worship were harassed by government police. Before visiting Grand Choral, Bush attended services at Kazan Cathedral, which under communism had been the city's Museum of Atheism.

Taking note of that past, Bush said, "I'm impressed by what I've heard from religious leaders, Christian and Jewish, here about the state of affairs in Russia."

Before leaving for Paris to meet with French President Jacques Chirac, Bush also told reporters that he had "strong reservations" about a series of Pakistani missile tests that began Saturday, but hoped India would not view the tests as a sign of provocation.

The administration fears the tests could increase tensions between India and Pakistan over the disputed Kashmir region. Bush noted that both countries are nuclear powers and "everybody understands the dangers . . . and the serious consequences."

"Obviously we hope that there is restraint in the area," Bush said.

On another foreign policy issue, Bush said he was frustrated that Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat "had a chance to secure the peace as a result of the hard work of President Clinton, and he didn't." Some among the leadership of the Palestinian Authority are showing a "new attitude" toward Arafat, Bush said, adding, "People are beginning to question out loud why there hasn't been some success" on peace efforts.

Bush's visits to the houses of worship underscored his pledge to push human rights issues alongside traditional foreign policy.

Avraham Berkowitz, executive director of Jewish Communities, attended Bush's visit and said the synagogue represented the flourishing of religious freedoms under Putin. *AP*

Israel pulls out of Bethlehem, enters another W. Bank town

JERUSALEM—Israeli troops withdrew from the West Bank town of Bethlehem early Sunday, while soldiers moved into the Palestinian town of Qalqilya, Palestinian witnesses and Israeli military sources said.

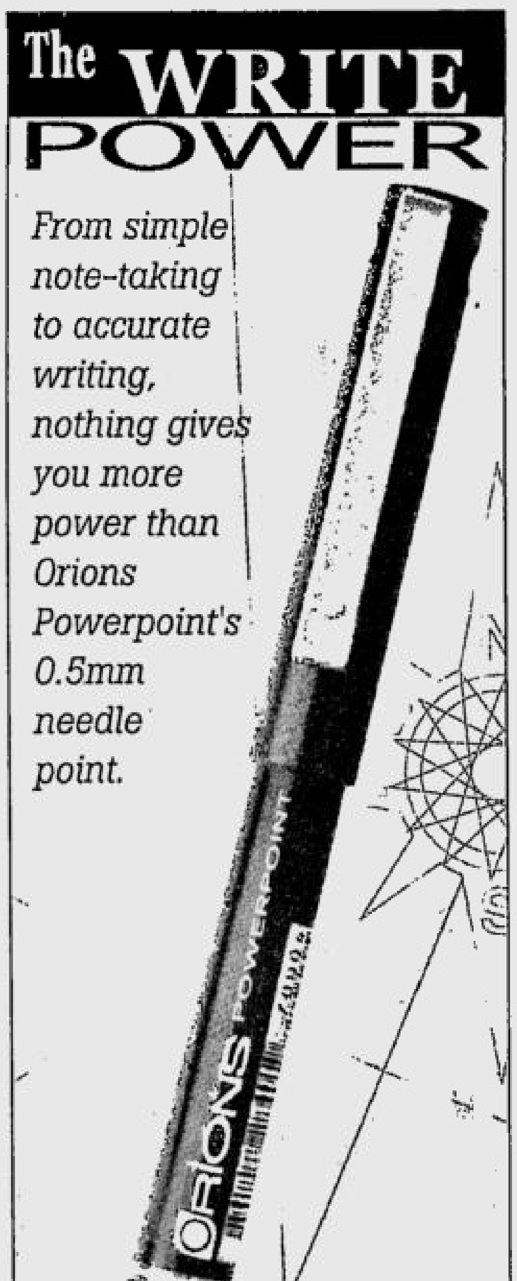
Dozens of armored vehicles pulled out of Bethlehem only hours after entering on Saturday night. The Army said it arrested a suspected militant, but did not name him.

Early Sunday morning Israeli troops in armored vehicles entered the West Bank town of Qalqilya, taking up positions and declaring a curfew, the military and Palestinian witnesses said. Witnesses reported gunfire exchanges as troops entered the town, but there were no injuries.

The Army said troops were carrying out searches and arrests in order to prevent militants from leaving the city, and would remain until they had completed their mission. Troops remained in the nearby town of Tulkarem, where a 55-year-old Palestinian civilian was killed by Israeli gunfire before dawn Sunday, witnesses said.

Tulkarem and Qalqilya are just inside the West Bank and Palestinian militants have launched many attacks from the town. Israel's Army has taken control of both towns a number of times in the last 20 months of conflict, often holding the city for a short period, while carrying out searches and arrests.

Israel completed a major military sweep through the West Bank several weeks ago, but the Army continues to carry out almost daily raids in pursuit of suspected militants. Most of the incursions last a day or two at most, and in some cases, only hours. *AP*



The WRITE POWER

From simple note-taking to accurate writing, nothing gives you more power than Orions Powerpoint's 0.5mm needle point.

It's guaranteed ***BLOT FREE*** *and* ***SKIP FREE*** *for smooth and fine writing and ultimate satisfaction.*

ORIONS POWERPOINT

Available in blue, black and red colors

Distributed by:

CBS, INC.

Member: Sterling Paper Group of Companies
2302 Sterling Place Pasong Tamo Ext., Makati City
Tel.: 813-7828 (connecting all depts.)

Available in all leading bookstores and department stores nationwide.

Hillary recalls conquest of Everest 50 years ago

AUCKLAND, New Zealand—When climbers scramble to the summit of the world's highest peak, their last obstacle is a 12-meter rock face covered in ice—the Hillary Step.

HILLARY in 1955

Before May 29, 1953, it had no name. Nobody had ever seen it up close, let alone scaled it.

But on that day, a 33-year-old New Zealand beekeeper and his Nepalese Sherpa guide cut a line of footholds into the icy wall and dragged their exhausted, oxygen-starved bodies the final feet to glory.

Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay had become the first climbers to reach the 8,850 meter summit of Mount Everest.

Since then more than 1,000 people have climbed to the peak and the path blazed by Hillary and Tenzing is well worn.

On May 16, 54 people made it there—a record number for a single day. Among them was Tenzing Norgay's grandson, Tashi Wangchuk Tenzing—who first climbed it in 1997. Hillary's son, Peter, who scaled Everest in 1990, reached the summit Saturday.

Forty-nine years after his triumph, Hillary, now 82 and semi-retired, recalls the endeavor was shrouded in doubt almost to the very end.

"It had really all been supposition. I didn't know whether we were going to be successful or not," Hillary said in an interview with The Associated Press. "I knew we were going to give it everything we had. But it wasn't until we climbed up the Hillary Step that I knew we were going to do it."

They stood together on the summit's rounded dome. "There was plenty of room for Tenzing and me," Hillary said. "I had a very strong feeling of satisfaction that Tenzing and I had finally reached the summit when many had tried before unsuccessfully. And here we were."

He talked in an office at his home in Auckland. A wall holds the wooden-handled, steel-headed ice ax he used—a tangible reminder not only of the feat itself, but of the difference in the equipment Hillary and Tenzing used and the high-tech gear carried by today's mountaineers.

Everest climbers now have ultralight, weatherproof clothes and boots and specially developed axes and ropes. Hillary and Tenzing had heavy woolen underclothes and trousers stuffed with feather down. They had soft leather boots and three pairs of gloves.

Hillary says he was the first to set foot on the summit, climbing ahead of Tenzing, who died in 1986. It doesn't seem to matter to him. Neither could have done it without the other, he says.

After picking their way up the Himalayan peak, a stoic Hillary stood in the clear, cold air at the top of the world and solemnly shook Tenzing's hand.

"But that wasn't enough (for Tenzing)," Hillary said. "He threw his arms around my shoulders. So I threw my arms around his shoulders, and we gave each other a hug."

After the initial euphoria, Hillary began snapping photographs—mostly of Tenzing waving Nepalese and British flags—as proof they had reached their goal. There is no image of Hillary at the top.

"There are of course no photographs of me on the summit; however, I can assure you I was there," he said with a smile. "Tenzing didn't have a camera . . . and the thought of getting him to take a photograph of me never really entered my mind."

Hillary vividly remembers "many occasions" when he doubted he and Tenzing would reach the top. Deep ravines and crevasses, avalanches, extreme ice faces and rock walls stood in the way as they struggled upward.

"That's what it's all about really, overcoming those problems even though you may have a sense of fear. I think fear can be a stimulating factor and can help make you drive yourself really to overcome dangerous problems," he said.

Hillary has prospered on his achievement ever since. But each time he stands up as an after-dinner speaker, the impoverished Sherpa people of Nepal benefit.

For 40 years he has dedicated himself to raising money for them, providing schools, hospitals, airstrips, bridges and roads, even Buddhist monasteries. He's funneled about $500,000 a year for the 100,000 Sherpas.

Tenzing and Hillary agreed long ago they had no desire to climb Everest again.

"It's become a bit commercially orientated. I think we were the lucky ones way back in 1953," Hillary said.

He bemoans the arrival of tourist mountaineers who now crowd the peak during the climbing season every May.

"They pay $65,000 to be shuttled up the mountain," he said. "We weren't doing it for any financial reason at all. These commercial expeditions nowadays are motivated by financial matters. I'm not happy with them and have never been, really."

Too many people with too little experience have to be led up the mountain by their guides and watched carefully at all times, he said.

"Some of them succeed and some of them don't. Some of them live and some of them die," Hillary said. *AP*

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Monday, May 27, 2002
8th Week in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: **1 P 1:3-9**
Gospel: **Mk 10:17-27**

Just as Jesus was setting out on his journey again, a man ran up, knelt before him and asked, "Good Master, what must I do to have eternal life?"

Jesus answered, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: Do not kill, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not bear false witness, do not cheat, honor your father and mother." The man replied, "I have obeyed all these commandments since my childhood."

Then Jesus looked steadily at him and loved him and he said, "For you, one thing is lacking. Go, sell what you have and give the money to the poor, and you will have riches in heaven. Then come and follow me." On hearing these words, his face fell and he went away sorrowful for he was a man of great wealth.

Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!" The disciples were shocked at these words, but Jesus insisted, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for one who is rich to enter the kingdom of God."

They were more astonished than ever and wondered, "Who, then, can be saved?" Jesus looked steadily at them and said, "For humans it is impossible, but not for God; all things are possible with God."

Commentary

"Many are called, but few answer yes" is more accurate than "many are called, but few are chosen." God keeps inviting, calling. What prevents us from answering yes to God? What a pity, the good rich man was not able to follow Christ, and so his name was not recorded in the Bible. Who cares for cowards! In this case Jesus looked steadily at him and loved him and challenged him to leave his riches behind, giving them to the poor in order to be free to submit himself to Christ. Raoul Folleroau wrote: "Lord, have pity on all poor of the world. And forgive us for having abandoned them for so long. Lord, do not allow us to be happy alone. Give us the anguish, the universal misery and free us from ourselves."

Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: claret@cn1.net; Websites: http://www.bible.claret.org (Claretian Publications Inc.) & http://missionaries.claret.org (Claretians in the Philippines)

SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

LABOR LAW (LABOR RELATIONS LAW)—Misconduct and disobedience—Misconduct is the transgression of some established and definite rules of action, a forbidden act, a dereliction of duty, willful in character, and implies wrongful intent and not mere error of judgment. As a just cause for termination, the misconduct must be serious, which implies that it must be of such grave and aggravated character and not merely trivial or unimportant. On the other hand, disobedience, as a just cause for termination, must be willful or intentional. Willfulness is characterized by a wrongful and perverse mental attitude rendering the employee's act inconsistent with proper subordination. Not every case of insubordination or willful disobedience by an employee of a lawful work-connected order of the employer is reasonably penalized with dismissal. There must be reasonable proportionality between the willful disobedience by the employee and the penalty imposed therefor. In the instant case, evidence is wanting on the depravity of conduct, and willfulness of the disobedience on the part of the respondents. Absence of one day of work to join a public rally cannot be of such great dimension as to equate it with an offense punishable with the penalty of dismissal. The reinstatement of the respondents is just and proper. [Citations omitted.] [Justice De Leon, Jr., St. Michael's Institute v. Santos, G.R. No. 145280, December 4, 2001]

DIGEST BY R.B. VERA

Bulgaria visit puts Pope's poor health in full view

SOFIA, Bulgaria—He is wheeled around in a cart, sits slumped in his chair looking exhausted and reads only small portions of his speeches, heavily slurring his words.

A four-day visit to Bulgaria has put Pope John Paul II's deteriorating physical condition in full view, alarming his hosts. But aides say he intends to continue his travels, feeling encouraged by outpourings of affection he receives.

The 82-year-old Pope on Saturday made a pilgrimage to one of Bulgaria's holiest sites, visiting a 1,000-year-old monastery in an effort to end a millennium of distrust between Catholics and Orthodox Christians.

It remains one of the unfulfilled goals of his 24-year papacy and one he intends to pursue.

He traveled by helicopter to the southern town of Rila for a visit to the Rila Monastery, not far from the tomb of St. Ivan Rilsky, patron saint of the Bulgarian people.

John Paul sat hunched over and one of his hands shook as he read just a few scattered lines of his remarks with badly slurred speech before letting an aide deliver the rest.

The visit, the Pope's 96th foreign tour, has been a major test of his stamina. His speech is often slurred and his hands tremble—symptoms of Parkinson's disease—and he walks with difficulty because of knee and hip ailments. In Rila, it took him a minute to shuffle 15 meters to pay his respects at the tomb of the late King Boris III.

The Vatican has confirmed that the Pope will travel in July to Canada, Mexico and Guatemala. He is to visit his native Poland in August. As if to end speculation that John Paul might decide to retire while in Poland and remain in his homeland, the Vatican said a stop in Croatia in September for a beatification is in preparation.

"The condition of the Pope is visible to all," Vatican spokesperson Joaquin Navarro-Valls told reporters Saturday. "He will continue to travel within these limitations. The Pope notes the big show of affection wherever he goes, and this encourages him."

However, one of the Orthodox churchmen who welcomed John Paul expressed alarm at the Pope's condition.

Metropolitan Simeon praised the Pontiff's mission and goals but said: "I think people around him should tell him he has to stop. He is suffering like Christ."

In Rila, John Paul praised the monks' work as "a great gift for the whole Church" and spoke of "the richness of Eastern monastic spirituality."

AP

MARILES N. QUEVADA,
LUTCF
Profession:
CPA
Previous Career:
- UCPB Bookeeper
- Citibank Universal Teller

Present Career:
Cocolife Financial Planner and Agency Manager

"I wanted to have more freedom, so I joined Cocolife."

"When you're a wife and mother, a 9 to 5 job can be a very stressful undertaking. That's why early on I knew I had to get out. I needed more time, I needed more freedom. That's when I decided to move to Cocolife. This opened me to a totally different kind of life. No bosses. No time cards. No salary caps. I was free! I was free to earn as much as I want and I was free to be with my kids anytime I wanted. This is the kind of life I want, thanks to Cocolife."

Cocolife is offering a challenging career in Financial Planning. Call or see us. We'll discuss the benefits, the compensation, the privileges. You'll be amazed at what you're going to hear.

COCOLIFE
FREEDOM TO LIVE YOUR LIFE

Fax this coupon if you want to be a Cocolife Financial Planner.

Name : ____________
Address : ____________
Tel. No. : ____________

COCOLIFE Building, 6774 Ayala Avenue, Makati City Fax No: 867-3523 Website:www.cocolife.com

Contact Nos.: Head Ofc 812-9037 *(look for Nancy/Janet)* • South Luzon 812-9042 • Caloocan City 363-7657 • Makati City 812-1713 • Taft Ave., Ermita, Manila 524-1838 • Santiago City, Isabela 078-682-8964 • Dagupan City 075-522-7722 • Sn Fdo, Pampanga 045-963-7372 • Cebu City 032-233-9098 • Iloilo City 033-337-8769 • Cagayan de Oro 0882-272-1497 • Pagadian City 062-214-4258 • Davao City 082-224-4903

EXTENDED! Until May 31, 2002

MITSUBISHI L300 FB
Pang-negosyo ngayong SUMMER!

Mas malamig dahil sa pinahusay na Dual Aircon System. Negosyo'y di mag-o-overheat ngayong summer.

Now comes with MMAD AM/FM Cassette Player!

- New rounded roof corners • New rounded corner post
- Recessed sliding windows • Re-contoured side panels
- Spray-on Rhino-lining on side and flooring
- New moulded plastic trims on front panel and back door
- New door lock mechanism for rear door • Gutterless roof

Bulsa'y di mag-iinit sa P96,000 downpayment o sa P6,480** monthly!

MITSUBISHI
DRIVE-IT-HOME SUMMER DEALS

LOW DOWNPAYMENT PLANS

L300 FB w/ MMAD* (ESP: P530,000)

Term		12	18	24	36	48	60
D/P	Net D/P	Monthly	Monthly	Monthly	Monthly	Monthly	Monthly
20%	96,000	38,831	26,777	21,276	15,178	12,154	10,854

LOW MONTHLY PLANS

Term		12	18	24	36	48	60
D/P	Net D/P	Monthly	Monthly	Monthly	Monthly	Monthly	Monthly
50%	265,000	23,427	16,155	12,845	9,164	7,269	6,480

* All plans subject to bank approval
** 60 mos. 50% D/P

Also available thru Summer Deals
L300AF
L300WT

Special deals for cash buyers!

See your nearest Mitsubishi dealer now!

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0807 Series of 2002

Ask us about:
Auto credit plans
Service Plus Card

WE'RE EVERYWHERE TO SERVE YOU:
METRO MANILA: CITIMOTORS - Makati - Tels. 892-0331 to 42 CITIMOTORS - Las Piñas - Tels. 875-1745, 873-6503 875-1768, 875-1704 DIAMOND MOTOR - Greenhills - Tels 727-0351 to 75, 721-0330, 724-5353 DIAMOND MOTOR - Marcos Highway - Tels. 645-4801 to 05 , 681-4101, 681-4133 DIAMOND MOTOR - Quezon Avenue - Tels 372-3901 to 15, 414-9440 to 42, 414-9433 to 37 DIAMOND MOTOR - Fairview - Tels. 418-3042, 935-3731 to 32 UNION MOTOR - Abad Santos - Tels. 251-7021 to 36, 253-1372 to 74 UNION MOTOR - Paco - Tels. 563-8481 to 85, 563-8401 to 87, 563-5679 563-5686, 563-5688, 562-7203 UNION MOTOR - Kalookan - Tels. 364-20-61 to 69, 364-0147, 364-0148, 364-0422, 364-9762 MITSUBISHI MOTORS - Balintawak - Tels 330-8901, 330-8903 LUZON: CARWORLD - Pampanga - Tels (045) 961-2601 to 03, 961-3456, 961-5600, 961-3040, 961-5620 CARWORLD - Tarlac - Tels (045) 982-5551 to 53, (045) 982-4640 CARWORLD- Marilao- Tel Nos (044) 711-2895 to 2897, 711-2469 CARWORLD - Malolos - Tels (044) 791-6320, (044) 791-2405 to 06, Cel No. (0918) 231-7819 CARWORLD- Olongapo- Tel Nos. (047) 224-4307 FREEWAY MOTOR - Baliuag - (044) 766-4235 to 36 FREEWAY MOTOR - Isabela - Tel 082-8401 FREEWAY MOTOR - Cabanatuan - Tels. (044) 463-1391, 463-5105 MOTORPLAZA - Calasiao - Tels. (075) 517-3060, 517-5635, 517-6204 MOTORPLAZA - Urdaneta - Tel (075) 568-2502, 568-3312 MOTORPLAZA - Bauang, La Union - Tel (072) 242-0610, 705-5050 MOTORPLAZA - Baguio City - (074) 300-3571, 446-0167 SFM SALES - Lipa City - Tels (043) 756-5522 to 25, 756-5194,756-1018 SFM SALES - San Pablo City - Tels. (049) 562-0690, 562-0691 CALEB MOTOR - Naga City - Tel Nos. (054) 811-0119, 473-4955, 473-4977 VISAYAS: AVESCOR MOTORS - Bacolod - Tels (034) 435-2111 to 14, 433-0551 AVESCOR MOTORS - Iloilo City - Tels (033) 337-6488, 335-0748 MITSUBISHI MOTORS CEBU - Tels (032) 345-1233, 420-5777 MITSUBISHI MOTORS DUMAGUETE - Tel (035) 225-1428 MITSUBISHI MOTORS TACLOBAN - Tel (053) 323-3724, MITSUBISHI MOTORS TAGBILARAN - Tel (038) 411-5815 MINDANAO: MITSUBISHI MOTORS BUTUAN - Tel (085) 815-3089 MITSUBISHI MOTORS CAGAYAN DE ORO - Tel (088) 855-1546 / (08822) 732-508 KARASIA - Davao/North - Tels. (082) 222-1111 to 13 KARASIA - Davao/South - Tels. (082) 298-1490 to 93 KARASIA - Tagum - Tel. (084) 217-3582 MINDANAO INTEGRATED-Gen. Santos - Tels. (083) 302-0588 ZAMBOANGA MOTORS - Zamboanga City - Tels. (062) 993-0786, 991-2250, 991-2138

MITSUBISHI MOTORS

Across the NATION

Assistant Editor **Tony Bergonia**

Northern Luzon Bureau
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074) 443-9255
Fax No. (074) 443-8971
E-mail: inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

Southern Luzon Bureau
23 Aurora St., Old Albay District
Legazpi City
Tel. No. (052) 820-8402
Fax No. (052) 820-1274
E-mail: inq_bicol@inquirer.com.ph

Visayas Bureau
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
E-mail: pdivis@skyinet.net

Mindanao Bureau
FEP Printing Corp. Bldg.
Ma-a Road, Davao City
Tel. Nos. (082) 244-1770 to 71
Fax no. (082) 2441771
E-mail:
pdiminda@dv.webling.com

GenSan tuna industry faces new peril

GENERAL SANTOS CITY—The city's multi-billion tuna industry is in peril if the proposed "Andean Trade Preference Expansion Act" gains ground in the US Congress.

The proposed legislature seeks to lift tariff on canned tuna products coming from the Andean region like Ecuador and Colombia.

The move by the US Congress has alarmed local trade officials, as well as tuna exporters here, saying this would put the city's premier source of dollar earnings in great jeopardy.

The US has been imposing 12 percent tariff on Philippine canned tuna.

Seven of the country's huge tuna canneries are found in this bustling seaport city and more than 15,000 workers are directly dependent on the industry.

In 1998, the Philippines earned some $200 million in tuna exports, with canned tuna accounting for $130 million.

Last year, the country's tuna industry exported over $127 million, $64.4 million of which came from canned tuna exports.

The US remained the largest single market for canned tuna.

Department of Trade and Industry data showed that 15 percent of the country's tuna exports go to Europe, the country's third tuna market next only to the US (38 percent) and Singapore (16 percent).

But the country's tuna export to the US is expected to plunge if the US allowed duty-free access of tuna products from Andean countries.

"This zero tariff for tuna products from Andean countries will certainly have (an) adverse impact on the competitiveness of our tuna products. The economic playing field will no longer be even," said Willie Guerra, an economist from City Economic Management and Cooperative Development (CEMCDO) here.

Doris Delima, South Cotabato-Sarangani-General Santos (Socsargen) Trade and Industry provincial chief, expressed the same sentiment, saying "our tuna products will be more expensive than those coming from Andean countries."

Mariano Fernandez, part owner of the Ocean Canning Corp. here, said lots of canning workers would be affected by the passage of the Andean Trade Preferences Expansion Act. ***Aquiles Zonio, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

THE BUSTLING tuna industry in General Santos faces new threats from abroad.

FILE/GUIJO DUENAS

Baguio parents defy Roco order on school fees

BAGUIO CITY—Defying the no-fee collection order of Education Secretary Raul Roco, parents here are encouraging their fellow parents to pay the required school fees when they enroll their children next week.

They said since the collection ban was imposed last year, several projects needed by the schools had not been implemented.

The Federation of Parent-Teacher and Community Association Inc. (FPTCA) here will start collecting payments from parents starting next week, they said.

Last year, Roco stopped public schools from collecting fees from students. The prohibition directed parents to adopt a socialized system of contributions and the association of school parents to collect the fees.

Ricky Give, Baguio FPTCA spokesperson, said they had set a scheme where parents can pay fees by installment.

"Many parents thought (that) there are no fees to pay anymore so when we started to collect, they complained to the media," he said.

Give said a pupil pays P400-P450 for a school year. Last year, more than 50 percent of the parents failed to pay the required fees, thus school officials withheld the pupils' cards.

"But for this school year, parents had agreed to push through with the collection of (school) fees," he said.

The FPTCA passed a resolution allowing the collection of fees during its summit here last March.

"(But) the payment of fees is only voluntary and not a requirement for enrollment. If parents want to avail of the installment system (of payment), it's all right with us," Give said.

A public high school here started collecting fees last week and parents did not complain, he said. ***Jovelyn Reyes, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau***

Group presses recall of Bacolod mayor

BACOLOD CITY—A multi-sectoral group calling itself the "Kilusang Mayo 21" has started pressing for the recall of Bacolod Mayor Luzviminda Valdez over her alleged "disappointing" performance in the almost one year that she had been in office.

Some 300 members of the group, that included several barangay chairmen, met on May 21 to discuss issues that would support a recall move against Valdez.

Samson Soriano, a leader of the group and who is also the national coordinator of the Philippine Democratic Socialist Party, said the gathering was organized as a venue for those who are discontented with the mayor's administration.

Among the issues raised against Valdez were the unresolved problems involving the plight of the city's public market vendors and the non-payment of the salaries and benefits of the city's casual employees.

Valdez was, however, unperturbed by the move, saying that several barangay chairmen she has talked to were not aware of any recall move and that most of them do not support it.

She also claimed she has received feedback that "someone from Malacañang" who is with the administration party Lakas-NUCD was behind the move.

She said her critics should instead join her to help improve services in the city instead of undertaking a destabilizing move.

"If they have funds for the recall move, they should better spend it in the barangay elections and help the barangay captains," she added.

But Soriano denied reports that Presidential Adviser for Special Concerns Norberto Gonzales was involved in the recall move. He said Gonzales only happened to be in Bacolod City when recall organizers were holding a meeting. He said Gonzales came to the city to discuss with Vice Mayor Ramiro Garcia projects involving the city's urban poor.

Soriano said Valdez should not accuse her critics of creating destabilization because "her administration is already destabilized."

A former vice mayor of the city, Alex Paglomutan, who was also named as one of the personalities behind the recall move, said Valdez's allies were just "paranoid."

Paglomutan admitted he was in the meeting but denied that he was its initiator. He said he was only requested by former Bacolod Mayor Oscar Verdeflor to represent him in the meeting "to discuss issues and observations on the local political situation."

"We have been in the government so we know what's best to be done," he said to explain his presence in the meeting. ***Carla Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau***

Abundant harvest forces NFA to stop buying palay

LEGAZPI CITY—The National Food Authority in Bicol has temporarily stopped buying palay from farmers in the six provinces of the region.

This has reportedly forced some farmers, especially from Camarines Sur, to sell their palay to private buyers at a price less than the P10 per kilo buying price of the NFA, as they allegedly need money.

Other farmers have already brought their palay to the NFA regional office's warehouse here but their deliveries have remained unloaded.

NFA Bicol Director Juanito David said the NFA had already more than met its P25-million worth of palay procurement target for the month of May due to the abundant supply from farmers.

David said that although they had stopped buying palay, some farmers were still delivering trucks of palay to NFA.

He said the farmers could be paid for their delivery only upon the release of another P25-million procurement fund, which is good for two weeks.

David clarified that every month, the NFA sets its target and the release of the money depends on how much palay the NFA intends to buy for the month.

He said that for this year, the NFA Bicol has a target purchase of 1.2 million bags of palay, or equivalent to P600 million.

David added that there were instances in the past when the NFA failed to hit its target but in recent months the office has successfully reached its monthly buying goals.

The NFA buys palay at P10 per kilo from farmers who are not members of cooperatives accredited by the office and P10.50 per kilo from those who are cooperative members. ***Job Belen, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

Quezon groups decry spurious land titles

INFANTA, Quezon—A confederation of people's organizations in northern Quezon has denounced the alleged proliferation of spurious land titles that cover timberland, ancestral domain claims of indigenous peoples, and salvaged zone and foreshore lands in the area.

The Kalipunan ng Samahang Mamamayan sa Hilagang Quezon Inc. (Kasama HQ) presented its concerns before government officials whom they invited during a consultation here on Friday.

Alberto Ungriano, Kasama HQ president, said, "We want to know the real score straight from them, right here."

He claimed that their members were already tired of going to government offices, which oftentimes had "resulted in nothing."

Armando Rutaquio, Quezon environment and natural resources officer, told the more than 3,000 delegates assembled inside the Infanta-covered basketball court that the processing of pre-patent land titles by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources has temporarily stopped, except for those being issued by the court.

He said the titles found spurious have been submitted to the court for cancellation.

"But we have to bear with the country's judicial system for being slow in the final disposition of the cases," Rutaquio said.

He assured the leaders of Kasama HQ that no foreshore lands and salvaged zone areas could be titled to anyone.

"Those areas could only be leased from the government but only after submitting the necessary documents and going through the right process," the DENR official said. "But we will still look into their complaints."

Kasama HQ also assailed the illegal logging in the Sierra Madre Ranges and illegal fishing in the Lamon Bay.

Rutaquio assured the group that his office and other NGOs are involved in an anti-illegal logging campaign to save what is left of the denuded forest. ***Delfin Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Northwestern Luzon will experience monsoon rains while the rest of Luzon will have cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to cloudy.

SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Cloudy with Rains	HI32° Lo 24°
Baguio	Monsoon Rains	HI 21° Lo 15°
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with Rains	HI 34° Lo 25°
Laoag	Cloudy with Rains	HI 31° Lo 24°
Clark Zone	Cloudy with Rains	HI 31° Lo 24°
Tagaytay	Cloudy with Rains	HI 30° Lo 22°
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	HI 30° Lo 22°
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	HI 33° Lo 25°
Iloilo/Bacolod	Partly Cloudy	HI 33° Lo 25°
Roxas	Partly Cloudy	HI 33° Lo 26°
Cebu	Partly Cloudy	HI 33° Lo 26°
Tacloban	Partly Cloudy	HI 33° Lo 25°
Gen. Santos	Partly Cloudy	HI 33° Lo 25°
Zamboanga	Partly Cloudy	HI 33° Lo 24°
Cagayan de Oro	Partly Cloudy	HI 32° Lo 24°
Davao	Partly Cloudy	HI 32° Lo 24°

Compiled by: Ray Leyesa, PDI Research/05/27/02

O-right with O-Gel

Be hip! Because everything's ought to be cool, use only O-gel pens. It's so fine you'll feel the gel scribbling smoothly on any paper.

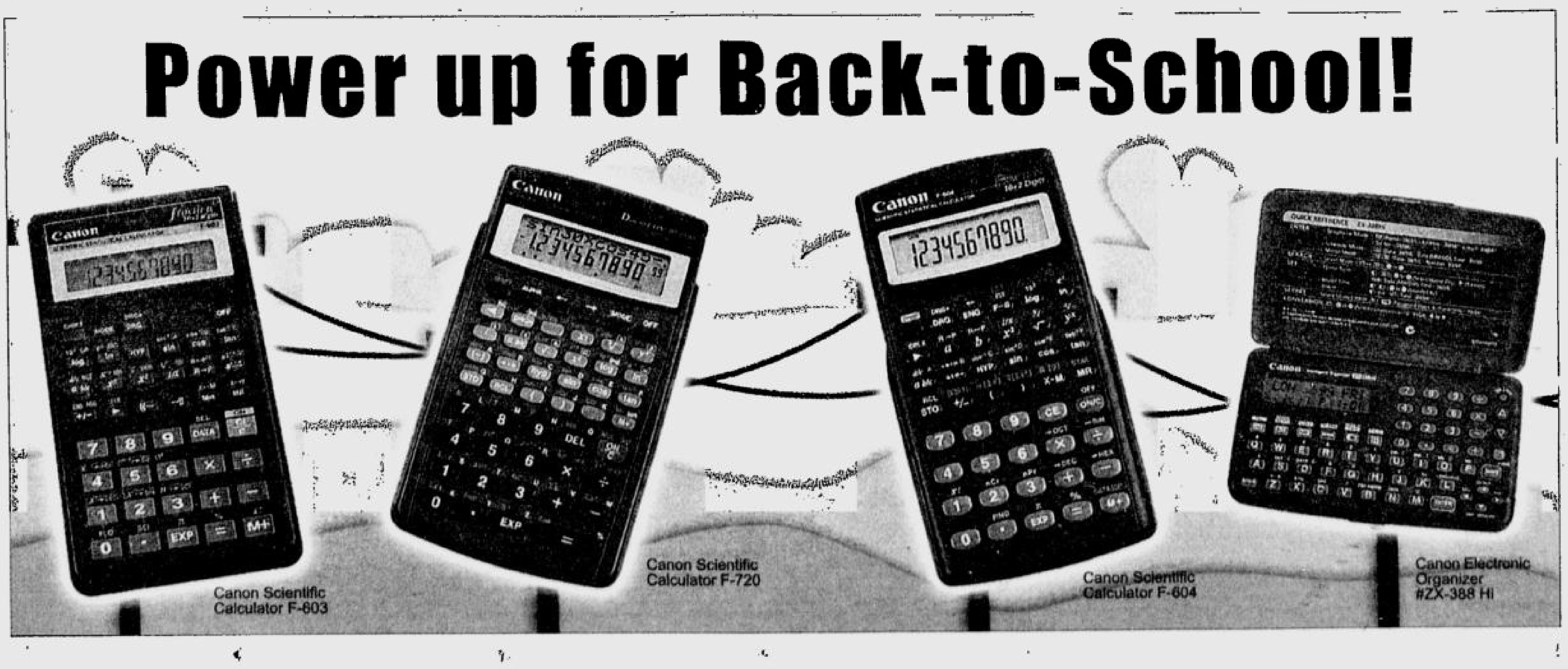
You just can't help but say, it's O-so good! It's...

ORIONS O-Gel

Available in blue, black and red colors

Distributed by:
CBS, INC.
Member: Sterling Paper Group of Companies
2302 Sterling Place Pasong Tamo Ext., Makati City
Tel.: 813-7828 (connecting all depts.)

Available in all leading bookstores and department stores nationwide.



Power up for Back-to-School!

Canon Scientific Calculator F-603
Canon Scientific Calculator F-720
Canon Scientific Calculator F-604
Canon Electronic Organizer #ZX-388 Hi

CPP bets in polls?

CARAGA, Davao Oriental—The Communist Party of the Philippines will field candidates in the barangay elections in July, police said.

Supt. Catalino Cuy, provincial police chief, said local rebels here have been asking incumbent barangay officials to "give way" to their candidates.

A barangay chair, who refused the New People's Army's request to forego with his plan to run again, was shot and wounded on Tuesday. ***Ferdinand Zuasola, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

ORDER NOW! AVOID THE SCHOOL SEASON RUSH!!!
COFTA ORIGINAL
HIGH QUALITY COFTA PLASTIC STUDY CHAIRS & TABLES

OXFORD STUDY TABLE
28"H x 18.5"W x 25.5"L approx. With book compartment. (also available Oxford Jr. 20.5" H approx.)

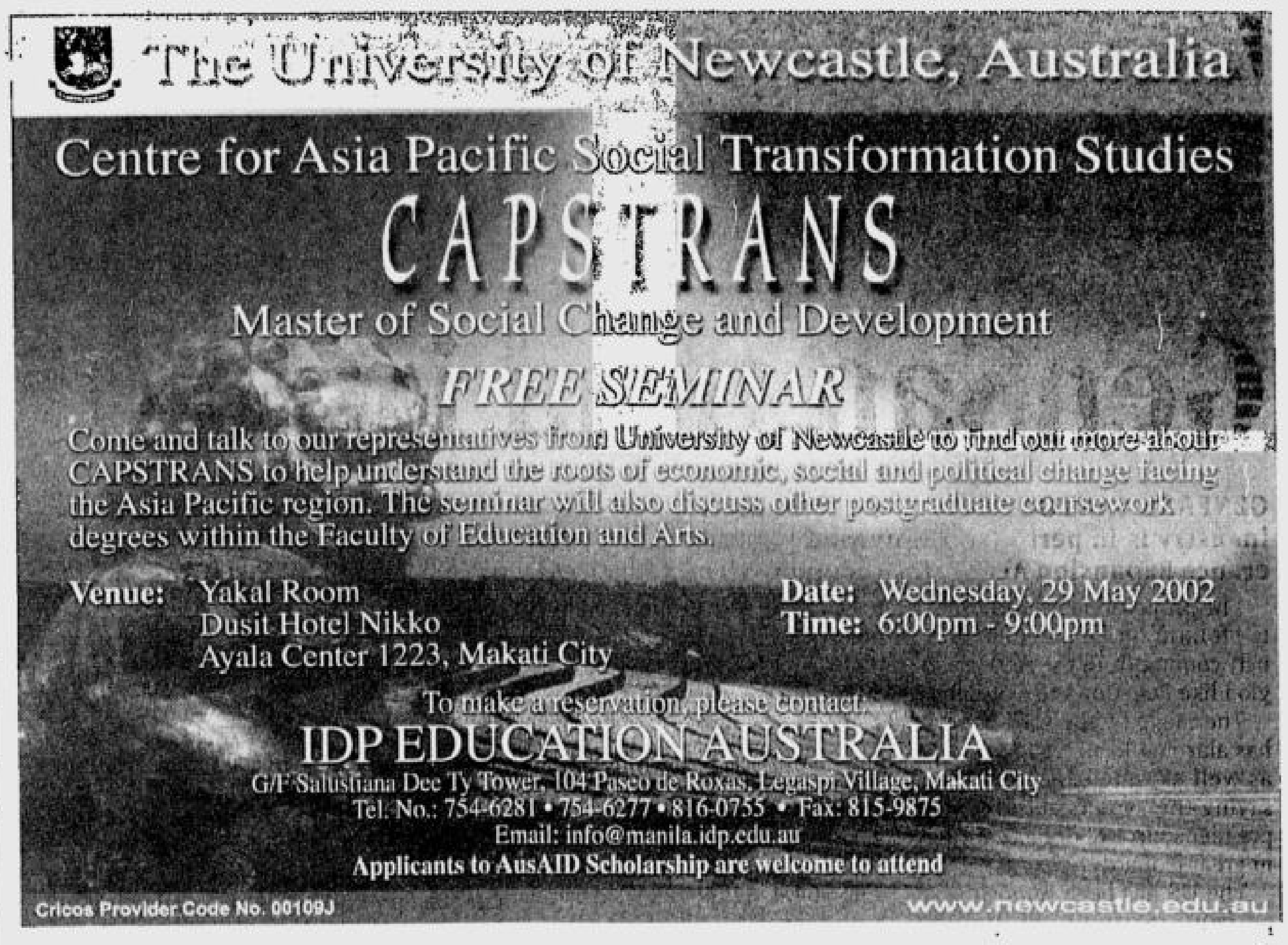
TOPAZ STUDY CHAIR
With full left armrest (29" W x 32"L)

DELIVERY WITHIN 7 DAYS ON AVAILABLE STOCKS!

HARVARD STUDY CHAIR
With slanted left armrest.

SCHOLAR STUDY CHAIR
Space saver model. 30% more compact

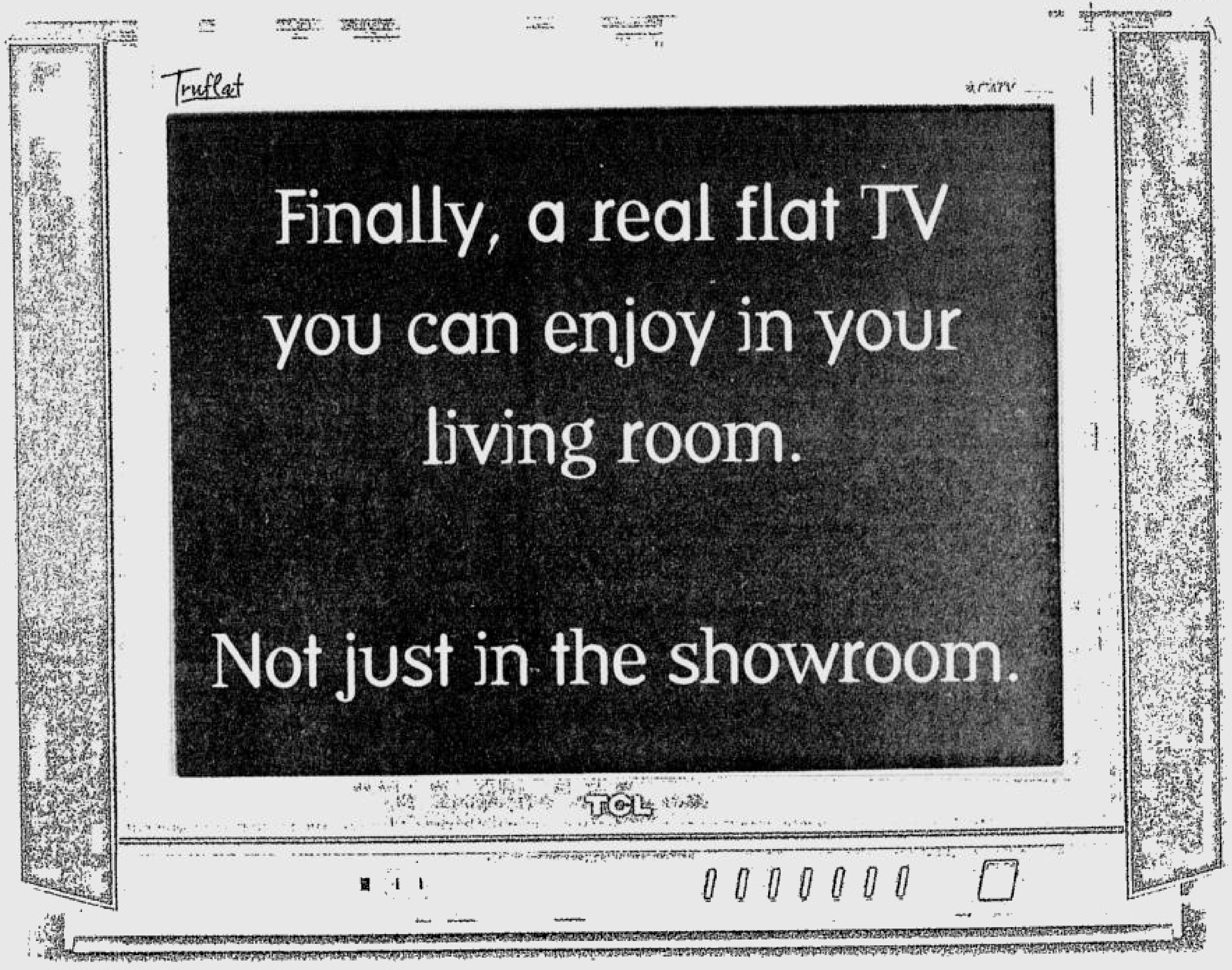
LIANA TRADING CORPORATION
268 San Fernando St., Binondo, MM. Tel: 241-6701 to 04
1489 Figueroa St. Cor. Perdigon St., Paco, MM. Tel: 564-5083, 561-0569


The University of Newcastle, Australia
Centre for Asia Pacific Social Transformation Studies
CAPSTRANS
Master of Social Change and Development
FREE SEMINAR
Come and talk to our representatives from University of Newcastle to find out more about CAPSTRANS to help understand the roots of economic, social and political change facing the Asia Pacific region. The seminar will also discuss other postgraduate coursework degrees within the Faculty of Education and Arts.

Venue: Yakal Room
Dusit Hotel Nikko
Ayala Center 1223, Makati City

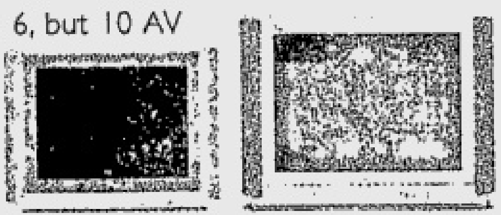
Date: Wednesday, 29 May 2002
Time: 6:00pm - 9:00pm

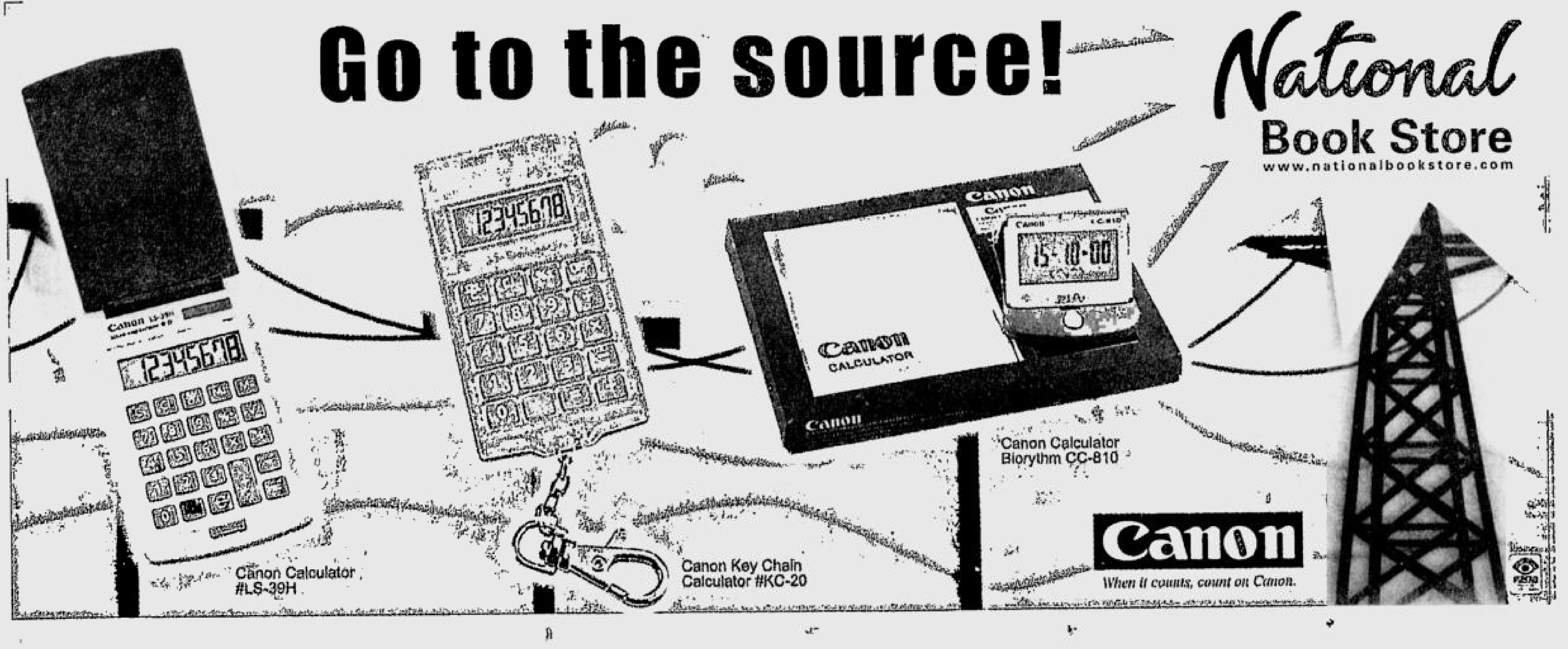
To make a reservation, please contact:
IDP EDUCATION AUSTRALIA
G/F Salustiana Dee Ty Tower, 104 Paseo de Roxas, Legaspi Village, Makati City
Tel. No.: 754-6281 • 754-6277 • 816-0755 • Fax: 815-9875
Email: info@manila.idp.edu.au
Applicants to AusAID Scholarship are welcome to attend
Cricos Provider Code No. 00109J
www.newcastle.edu.au


Truflat
Finally, a real flat TV you can enjoy in your living room.
Not just in the showroom.
TCL
TCL 2990 Truflat

Introducing the TCL Truflat TV. It doesn't only give you the lifelike images you expect from pure flat TVs, it also has all the features you want plus a number of innovations you won't find in other TVs in its class. With its built-in equalizer, it allows you to personalize your own audio settings. Top that with MTS Stereo and Dynamic Bass Enhancement system for the sound that rivals THX. Also, it has not just the usual 2, but 3 Channel Flashback. And not just 6, but 10 AV sockets including an S-Terminal for your VCD or DVD. What's more, it comes in different trendsetting colors (titanium silver, pearl white and metallic blue), making it the only TV that delights your eyes even when it's switched off. Thanks to our unique "Hybrid Technology," we can produce state-of-the-art TVs in the most cost-effective way. So you don't have to pay that much to get the kind of TV you've always wanted. **That's the Difference.** Check out TCL Truflat at your favorite appliance store and see how its competitors simply fall flat in comparison.

TCL Hybrid Technology


TCL 2190 - AV Stereo
TCL 2990 - MTS Stereo
TCL Truflat
Technology that Conquers Limitations


Go to the source!
National Book Store
www.nationalbookstore.com
Canon Calculator #LS-39H
Canon Key Chain Calculator #KC-20
Canon Calculator Biorythm CC-810
Canon
When it counts, count on Canon.

Use of condom low among men, says Iloilo study

By Ma. Diosa Labiste
PDI Visayas Bureau

ILOILO CITY—Health workers here have recommended the creation of a pool of male condom endorsers to convince their kind to use condoms to prevent sexually transmitted diseases (STD) and the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) that causes the dreaded Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS).

The suggestion came in a recent study of 360 female sex workers, both regular and freelance, and men having sex with men (MSM), conducted by the private Kabalaka Reproductive Health Center at the Central Philippines University.

The study, which was the fifth in a series, was funded by the World Health Organization through the Department of Health.

Marian Virgie Gumayan, head of Kabalaka, said male participation is needed so that men can be "empowered to use condoms as a norm in preventing STDs."

She said male endorsers of condoms may conduct small group discussions in communities to be more effective.

Gumayan said the study also asked members of the Metro Iloilo Association of Entertainment Establishments to make condoms available to customers and sex workers alike.

Special attention was given to MSMs in the study due to their risky sexual behavior. Most MSMs are in their teenage years and are generally perceived to be eager to experiment.

Of the 120 MSMs surveyed, majority had no regular sex partners. When they had, these partners were non-paying. Many of these MSMs plied their trade for less than a year and some were highly mobile:

Compared to their women counterparts, MSMs, who cruise at least 21 streets in the city, had the lowest number of respondents always using condoms.

Less than one third sometimes used condoms while 70 percent never used condoms.

Close to 25 percent of the MSMs surveyed admitted having female partners but most of them never used condoms with their female partners.

When asked why they did not use condoms, the MSMs said either these were not available or their partners did not insist on using the rubber sheaths.

The Kabalaka study said condom use decreased with the use of prohibited drugs.

It was noted that there had been an increase in the number of sex workers who admitted using drugs during the last six months prior to the Kabalaka surveillance.

Shabu (methamphetamine hydrochloric acid) was among the most common drug in use. Marijuana, cough syrup and rugby were also popular abused substances.

When they sought treatment for STDs or undergo regular medical check up, the men were more secretive, preferring to go to private clinics.

The women, however, were more open. They visited the government's Social Hygiene Clinic and the outreach post of Process Foundation.

FERDINAND ZUASOLA

BRAND NEW DAY
The sun rises and a new day starts, bringing with it new hope for these fishermen just about to start another working day in Pujada Bay in Mati, Davao.

Mountain folk see new hope in 'tilapia' breeding

By Alex V. Pal
PDI Visayas Bureau

DUMAGUETE CITY—He seemed out of place in that mountain spring in Mabinay, Negros Oriental but this young boy of 12 was carrying a spear gun, when all other boys his age were learning to use the plow.

"There are a lot of big *tilapias* down below!" he said, pointing excitedly at the shallow spring.

"Yes, we get big *tilapias* here all the time!" chorused an old lady selling candies nearby.

Somehow, the idea of fishing in the mountains seemed unusual for many city dwellers like this group of journalists who had planed in from Manila to go spelunking. But for Leonardo Aro of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) in Negros Oriental, that was nothing new. "Farmers here in the province have been reaping big harvests of *tilapia* since the government introduced the Genetically Improved Farm Tilapia (GIFT) project starting about two years ago."

Aro said he has received favorable feedback from farmers on the success of the fish dispersal program.

"Two or three pieces of these GIFT *tilapia* can reach one kilo. That's a big boost to the income and the diet of the farmers," he said.

Last Friday, farmers in Barangay Calango, Zamboanguita reported harvesting one ton of *tilapia* from the five-hectare irrigation dam in their barangay.

Aro said the thrust of the program is to introduce GIFT fingerlings in lakes, rivers, dams and other bodies of water, particularly in the rural areas.

The BFAR, Aro explained, comes in only to support the various line agencies that implement other projects, like the National Irrigation Administration, the Provincial Agriculturists' Office and the local government units concerned.

The BFAR maintains a GIFT breeding pond beside its office in Barangay Calindagan in Dumaguete City. Some of these juvenile *tilapia* are also sent to other government agencies for dispersal.

Among the target beneficiaries of the GIFT project are the displaced workers in the *muro ami* operations, after this method of fishing was outlawed due to its harmful effects on corals and people engaged in the trade.

Groups sue Vigan mayor, execs for dispersing rally

VIGAN CITY—A multisectoral group here sued Mayor Eva Marie Singson-Medina and five other city officials for allegedly disrupting the rally of about 500 people here on May 1.

The Save Ilocos Sur Alliance (Sisa), which led a rally to mark Labor Day in nearby Bantay town, accused Medina, Vigan police chief Supt. Antonio Rabuya, Supt. Rolando Alvis, Insp. Alfredo Guillermo, Firemen Abraham Obrero and Greson Ramos of violating their right to take part in a peaceful assembly.

In their complaint, Sisa president Nestor Segismundo and secretary general David Roca also asked the regional trial court here to order the six officials to pay them P200,000 in moral and exemplary damages.

"We are filing the suit to give a lesson to public officials to be more cautious in their future acts," said Sisa's lawyer Jessie Vizcarra.

"It will determine the parameters of civil rights of individuals vis-a-vis the awesome powers of the state and its political subdivisions and agencies."

Medina denied Sisa's allegations and vowed to answer all of them in court.

"The times that we asked them to postpone their rallies were during the two major Vigan religious festivities in January (conversion of St. Paul) and in May (feast day of Apo Lakay (Black Nazarene)," she said.

"We did not suppress their freedom of speech as they still were able to air their grievances (because it) was well covered by the media," she said.

Sisa officials complained that Medina did not allow them to use the Fr. Jose Burgos Plaza for their peaceful public assembly to air their grievances against the government.

They accused Rabuya and his men of preventing the protesters, who had assembled in nearby Bantay town, from going to the plaza in Vigan City.

They said Rabuya and his men blocked both lanes along the Govantes Dike in Bantay through the use of vehicles, steel bars and squads of policemen.

The complainants said Alvis was not wearing his uniform when policemen prevented the protesters from going to the Vigan plaza.

Leoncio Balbin Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Fly High With
ISABEL GRANADA
BS Aero Engineering 2002
PAULIE YLLANA
BS Aero Engineering 2006

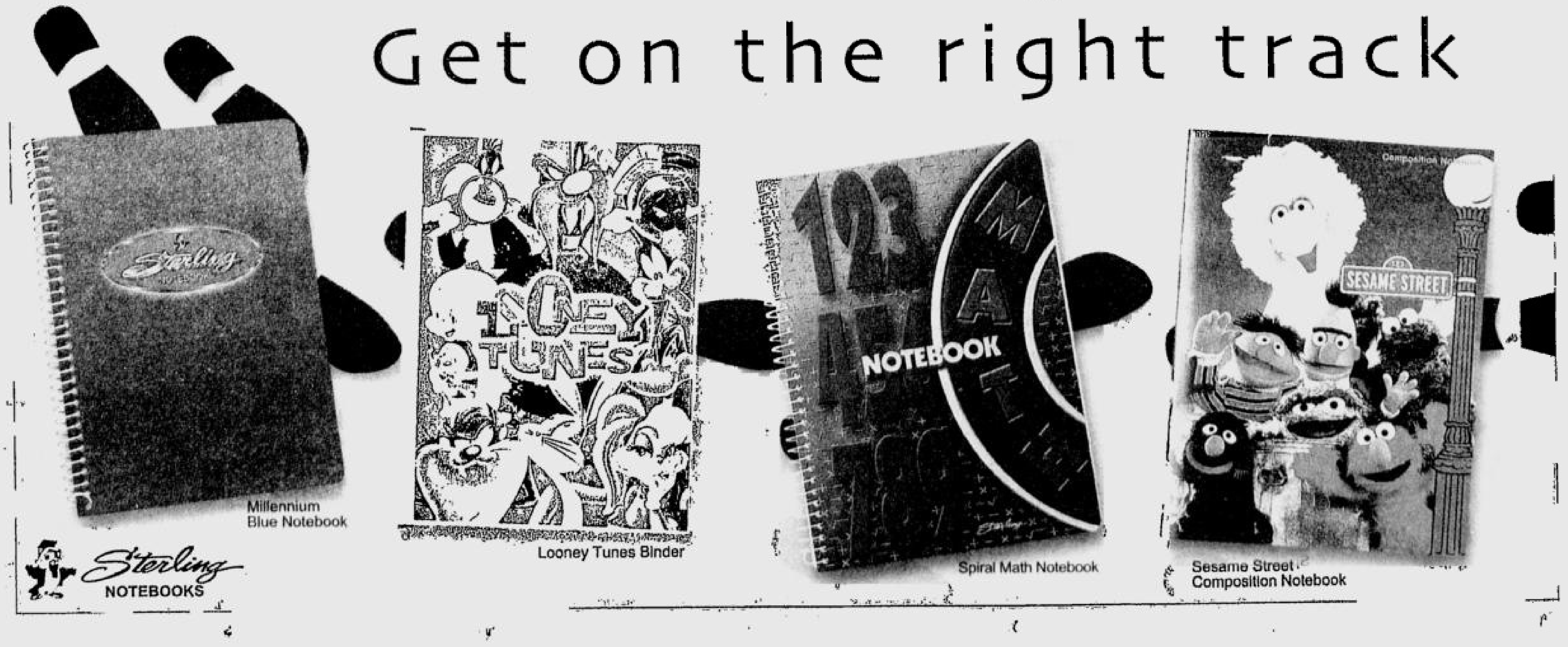
PATTS
College of Aeronautics
YOUR FUTURE IS IN THE SKIES!

Courses Offered:
- B.S. Aeronautical Engineering - 5 yrs.
- B.S. Air Transportation - 4 yrs.
- B.S. Aircraft Maintenance Technology - 4 yrs.
- B.S. Avionics Technology - 4 yrs.
- B.S. Airline Business Administration - 4 yrs.
- B.S. Tourism - 4 yrs.
- B.S. Airline Office Administration - 4 yrs.
- Associate in Airline Office Administration - 2 yrs.
- Communication Technician Course - 2 yrs.
- Aircraft Technician Course - 2 yrs.

*Computer subjects integrated in all courses

Enroll now and be counted. With us, you'll always be SECOND TO NONE.

Domestic Airport Road, Pasay City, Metro Manila Tels. 833-4746 • 834-1111 Fax 833-4076
Email: admin@patts.edu.ph Website: www.patts.edu.ph


Get on the right track

Millennium Blue Notebook
Looney Tunes Binder
Spiral Math Notebook
Sesame Street Composition Notebook

Sterling NOTEBOOKS

Muslim cadets join Baguio worshippers

From page A1

ture officers of the Armed Forces of the Philippines," Dolorfino said. "I know it pretty well. I am a *balik*-Islam (an Islamic convert) and as a child, I grew up (in a discriminatory environment)." Dolorfino accompanied the cadets to the Baguio Islamic Center, only a few meters from City Hall.

He noted that an already approved plan to build a PMA mosque is a symbolic victory for the campaign because it could serve as a "cleansing" tool for the Moro image.

"(The) PMA is the premier military institution. It is symbolic for a mosque to be built in (the) PMA. It sends a strong message that the AFP is willing to promote understanding between Muslim and Christian (Filipinos). It manifests the (AFP's) sincerity to promote reconciliation," Dolorfino explained.

But PMA insiders said military prejudice almost disallowed the academy's mosque project, which will be financed by the Saudi Arabian government.

"It took the mosque's advocates a long time to really persuade the AFP (leadership) that the project was more than just a public relations program. It is supposed to be a real, active place of worship," one source said.

The PMA has already hired the academy's first *imam* (Islamic cleric), scholar Bedejim Abdullah, who has started to perform his duties every Friday.

"I evangelize. I speak to cadets. And in the last two months, I have seen non-Muslim (cadets) joining us and I think that is a start of advocating the good image of the Muslim (to the military)," Abdullah said.

Glamorous figure

At the community mosque, the PMA's Muslim cadets cut a glamorous figure.

Almaarif students, all scholars, presented humorous Filipino skits that translated some of the Koran's popular parables, while their classmates kept staring at the six new cadets and their seniors: First Class Cadets Ariel Perro and Avelino Sali and Third Class Cadet John Robert Lee.

Almaarif supervisor Mohammad Khamil Abdullah said he hoped the kind of "connectivity" he saw between the cadets and the students would help cement the friendships between Baguio's 3,000 migrant or refugee Muslim families and the military.

Fourth Class Cadets Khalil Thaking, Benzar Hamalon Jo, Mark Mundia, Ariel Annudin, Rizar Quisay and Rusty Sarapudin said they were hopeful the interim agreements signed in Malaysia early this month would mean graduating into a career that no longer sees Mindanao as a military threat. The six were formally incorporated as PMA cadets by new AFP Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Roy Cimatu on Saturday morning.

Their predecessors, particularly those from PMA Class 2000, lost graduates to engagements in various parts of Mindanao last year.

Jo said the agreements did not yet erase the fears shared by members of his generation.

"There is still inequality (in Mindanao). Unless we can solve that, there will really be no peace," Jo, a native of Jolo, Sulu, said.

Thaking, a resident of Zamboanga City, said the situation had been aggravated by ignorance and misinformation, conditions which will continue to hound his own children.

Dolorfino, a member of PMA Class 1976, echoed Thaking's points, relating how adults used to describe Maranao traders peddling blankets door-to-door during his childhood as "Moros."

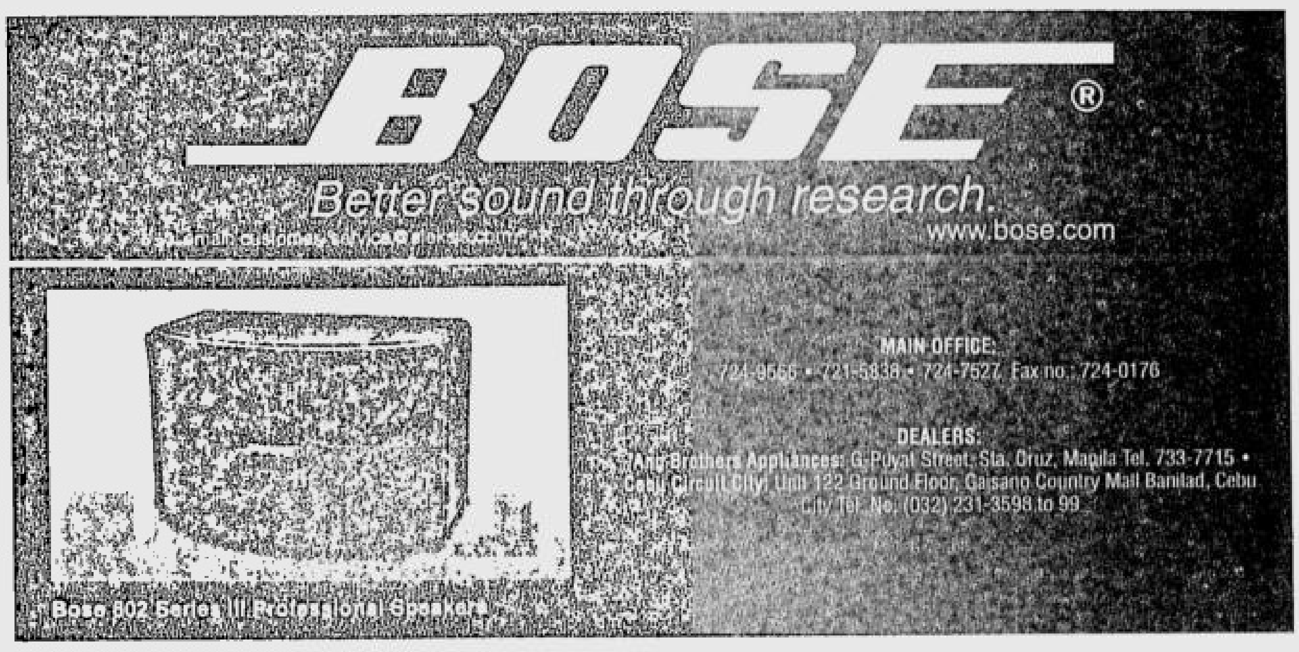
The current AFP leadership is composed of graduates from the PMA Classes of 1970, 1971 and 1972, who came of age during the bloody Mindanao conflicts of that era.

The PMA initiative hopes in time to create a new leadership class for whom working and living with Muslims side by side is already second nature.

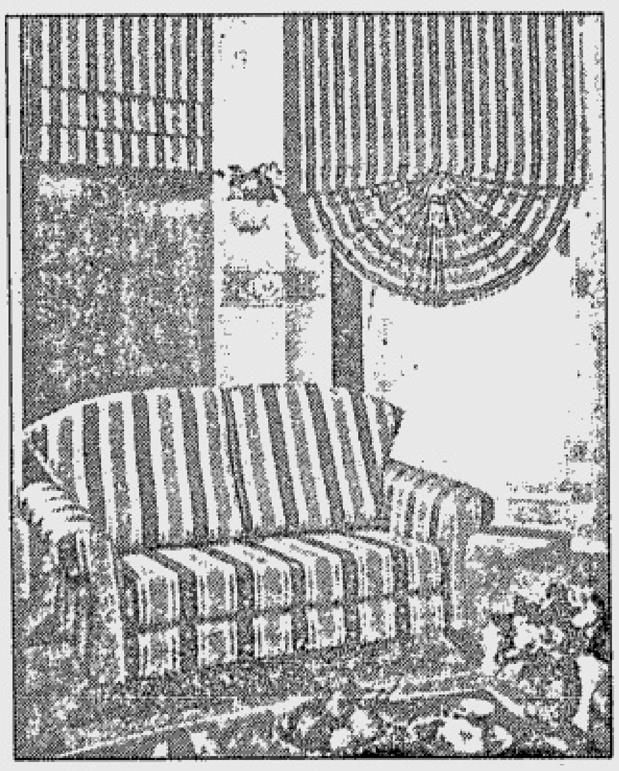
Masaya ka ba sa Iyong trabaho?

There's a career in here.

JOB MARKET
www.inquirer.net/jobmarket


BOSE®
Better sound through research.
www.bose.com
Bose 802 Series II Professional Speakers
MAIN OFFICE:
724-9566 • 721-5838 • 724-7527, Fax no.: 724-0176
DEALERS:
Ang Brothers Appliances: G. Puyat Street, Sta. Cruz, Manila Tel. 733-7715 • Cebu Circuit City: Unit 122 Ground Floor, Gaisano Country Mall Banilad, Cebu City Tel. No. (032) 231-3598 to 99

The New Luxury Roman Shade



One Look Says It All
Quality • Beauty • Variety

The New Luxury Roman Shade, with it new patented drum make it easier to assemble or disassemble the fabric. With the new clutch-brake system, you can draw the shade up or down to any point you want. The fastener is fixed to the rail, making the shade more durable. Its 5m/m hexagon metal rod can load much power of twisting and revolving. You can select from a wide variety of beautiful fabric design to match the color of your room. Available in manual or motorized.

Also available: MechoShade, Rolla Shutter, Retractable Awning, Mini-Blinds and Vertical Blinds.

A Quality Product of
FUTURA
DECOR PRODUCTS
Operated by:
YTF Manufacturing Inc.
828 Torres St., Brgy Addition Hills, Mandaluyong City, Metro Manila
Tels.: 724-72-17, 718-47-75 to 76, 718-47-78 to 79
Fax: (632) 726-57-18
For inquiries, look for Jocelyn or Celia

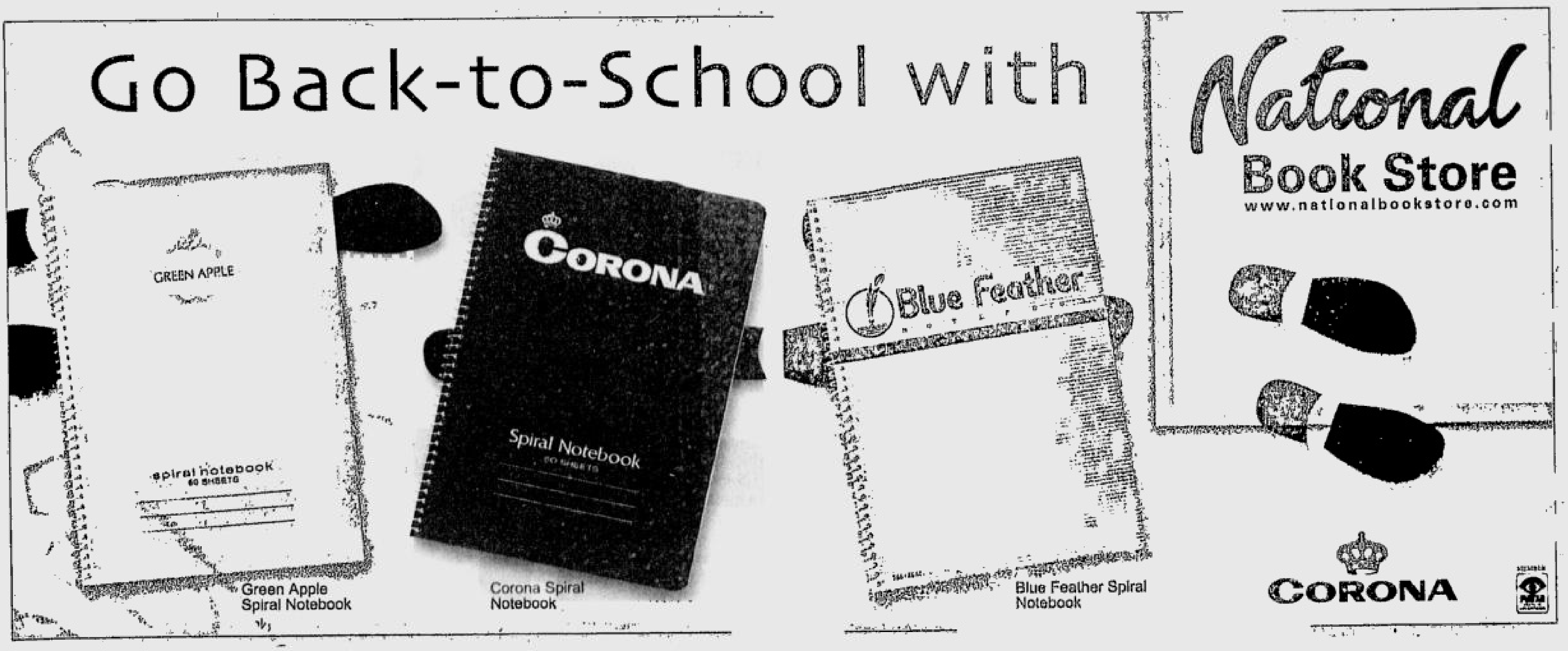
AKIRA
makes life better
FREEBIES GALORE
A sleek GE Phone comes FREE with every AKIRA appliance purchase.

With AKIRA's wide range of appliances, you have more choices to make life better. Now, we are giving you an extra reason to smile. For every purchase of any AKIRA Home Appliance specified below, you get to take home a sleek GE Phone (29256GE) with cool features.

Note: For the 63.5 cm (25") & above colored TV, you'll have more convenience by getting a GE cordless phone (26700GE).

Just what you deserve -- for making the perfect choice!

PROMO PERIOD: May 10 to June 30, 2002
SUPER FLAT & PURE FLAT COLORED TV's 21" (53.34 cm) & up
REFRIGERATORS (RS-110P - RD-258P)
Per DTI NCR Permit No. 1380 Series of 2002
AVAILABLE AT ALL LEADING APPLIANCE DEALERS NATIONWIDE.
Insist on Akira official warranty card upon your purchase.
Tel. Nos. (02) 809-93-47 (Sales) / (02) 850-4853 (Marketing) Visit www.myakira.com


Go Back-to-School with National Book Store
www.nationalbookstore.com
Green Apple Spiral Notebook
Corona Spiral Notebook
Blue Feather Spiral Notebook
CORONA

GMA seeks power rate compromise

By Carlito Pablo and Christine Avendaño

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo wants to please both consumers and investors as she looks for ways to lower the country's high cost of electricity, acting Press Secretary Silvestre Afable yesterday said.

"We believe there is a compromise that will serve both the clamor of the public for some relief in electricity costs and the need to maintain investor confidence so that our economy will continue to grow," Afable said.

He admitted that Ms Macapagal "is caught in the middle . . . but at this point, she has chosen to give some relief to the public because . . . our people find it difficult to pay very high electricity rates."

He said the President had instructed Energy Secretary Vincent Perez to consult closely with lawmakers "so we can look for solutions that serve the interest of our people and at the same time, not telegraph a position that we are taking a populist stand at the expense of investor confidence."

"This is the point that we are looking for and it is under consultation and the President supports these consultations," Afable said, referring to congressional initiatives aimed at reducing the controversial purchased power adjustment (PPA) costs.

Bills in the House of Representatives and the Senate seek to suspend PPA payments, an automatic cost recovery mechanism granted to companies either generating or distributing electricity and is responsible for the high costs of electricity.

Afable said Ms Macapagal had not taken a firm position on the PPA issue on a long-term basis. She earlier ordered the state-run National Power Corp. to reduce by 40 centavos its PPA charges on consumers of Manila Electric Co.

"We cannot take a firm position while these consultations are going on," he said. "The President really wants all ideas to come out . . . because it is a very complex issue."

The government is finishing its review of contracts signed with independent power producers (IPPs) during the term of then President Fidel Ramos. The contracts gave rise to the PPA.

While there are claims that a number of these contracts are onerous, the government cannot simply abrogate them because this will adversely affect investor confidence in the country.

Hence, "the President is considering both relief to the public and the long-term needs of investor confidence," Afable said.

This week, the House starts plenary debates on a bill seeking to amend the Electric Power Industry Reform Act (Epira) to lower power rates.

It hopes to approve House Bill No. 4741 before Congress takes a break on June 6, according to House Majority Leader Neptali Gonzales.

In the Senate, three proposals are being discussed to reduce the PPA charges.

Ms Macapagal had pushed for the replacement of the PPA with a 40-centavo universal levy, which is actually outlined by Epira. Administration senators are pushing for a three-year moratorium on PPA collection, while opposition Sen. Edgardo Angara wants the PPA charge slashed from P3.30 per kwh to P1.18.

Sen. Manuel Villar acknowledged that the Epira, which was signed into law by Ms Macapagal last year, was one of causes of the high PPA charges.

At a press conference in Baguio City, he said Congress erred when it granted industry players cross-ownership rights over power facilities in Epira.

Villar said the moratorium prevented consumers from choosing their own power supplier, forcing them to shoulder the debts of Napocor and power distributors like Meralco. ***With reports from Ronnel W. Domingo in Manila and Vincent Cabreza and Frank Cimatu, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau***

Palace firm on 2 pacts

From page A1

Mindanao," Gonzales said in a phone interview on Friday.

Yesterday, acting Press Secretary Silvestre Afable said the Palace expected the talks to resume "soon."

President Macapagal-Arroyo suspended the operations of the Dureza panel several weeks ago to give way to back-channeling efforts by Gonzales.

"I am sure the government will try to take advantage of the momentum gained by these agreements," Afable said. "Even the MILF is looking forward to rehabilitation and development projects."

Afable was referring to the May 7 agreement on "implementing guidelines," which provides for the rehabilitation of Muslim communities affected by the Estrada administration's "all-out war" in 2000.

The other accord, a "joint communiqué" signed on May 6, involved the cooperation of the MILF in the military and police campaign against criminal gangs, particularly kidnap-for-ransom groups, in certain areas in Mindanao.

No violation

Gonzales said the two agreements he signed did not violate any provision of the Constitution and enjoyed the full support of the President.

"We have not compromised the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the republic," Gonzales said, referring to claims that the accords gave back to the MILF the more than 40 camps captured by the military in 2000.

Afable underscored the tentative nature of the accords, saying they were mere interim agreements.

"What Secretary Gonzales is saying is that this is not the final agreement and there will (still) be the final agreement," Afable said. "This (final accord) will be the one that will be binding, whether it gives a new interpretation of these agreements (or not)."

Afable, whose primary job is running the Presidential Management Staff, said members of the opposition were "really going overboard" when they accused the President of committing an impeachable offense through her support of the agreements.

"The President has not violated any provisions in the Constitution nor has she acted against public interest," Afable said.

"The strategic objective of course of these negotiations is to lower the absolute level of violence in the area and to try to blunt the edge of Islamic fundamentalism," he said.

He pointed to the May 7 agreement that seeks, among other provisions, to address the socioeconomic needs of Muslims displaced in the course of fighting in 2000.

"We all know that extreme poverty will continue to be a ground for terrorism. I think we should all take a very strategic view of the situation and be able to see through (to) where we are going," he said.

Continuing criticisms of the interim agreements do "not serve our national security," Afable said.

Study finds overbilling by Meralco

From page A1

In February 1998, the ERB ordered Meralco to roll back its rates by 16.7 centavos per kwh and to refund its customers a total of P10.8 billion within a year.

The ERB order, which was contested by Meralco in the courts and is now pending in the Supreme Court, was based on an 18-centavo-per-kwh rate increase in 1994 that bloated the utility firm's RORB to about 21 percent.

A source said half of Meralco's overbilling of 40.8 centavos per kwh was related to the ERB ruling in 1998, while the rest was related to practices that the regulating body, now the ERC, has yet to decide on.

Recommendation

The study instead recommended a reduction in Meralco rates by almost 41 centavos per kwh broken down into:

- 20 centavos per kwh by disallowing the inclusion of income tax payments as part of operating expenses.
- Nine centavos per kwh (about P2 billion) by disallowing Meralco's formula of using an 11.5-percent provision for systems losses instead of the 9.5-percent ceiling provided by Republic Act No. 7832.
- Eight centavos by disallowing the practice of including a two-month cash working capital in the rate base when distributors like Meralco are able to collect at almost the same time the money they need to pay for the power they buy.
- Three centavos per kwh by using about P700 million in profits from related businesses like pole rentals in the reduction of its distribution charges.
- P0.05 centavo per kwh by disallowing P5 billion worth of revaluation in depreciation expenses.
- P0.03 centavo by disallowing P576 million worth of idle land that Meralco plans to use later.

"With the study, people are hoping that the ERC will not only disregard the P1.12-per-kwh rate hike petition of Meralco but also ask it to reduce its current rates by about 40 centavos per kwh," said another source, who also asked not to be identified.

The unbundling petitions submitted by Meralco and other power distribution firms to the ERC as required by the Electric Power Industry Reform Act of 2001 were not supposed to lead to rate increases.

The ERC is scheduled to decide by next month whether to grant Meralco a rate increase of P1.12 per kwh.

Parts of the study

Last month, Energy Secretary Perez shared some of the findings of the study to the INQUIRER editors and reporters as he lashed out at Meralco for its rates, a stance welcomed by consumers.

Perez criticized Meralco for using a return-on-equity of 17.92 percent when most utilities were using 12 percent. One utility firm even adopted a return formula of as low as 4 percent, he said.

Perez also censured Meralco for including in its rates a systems loss ceiling of 11.5 percent instead of 9.5 percent and a two-month cash working capital, as well as assets not directly used in power distribution in the rate base.

Meralco, he said, did not return to its customers the profits derived from businesses like pole rental and gains made from the two-month deposit collected from each customer.

The study noted that of the P1.12 rate hike petition of Meralco for a rate increase of 76 centavos would be accounted for income tax payments included as part of its operating expenses.

The ERB had ruled that income tax payments were not to be included in computing a power distributor's RORB.

It said income tax payments artificially shrank Meralco's RORB. The practice has made the Lopez-controlled utility firm appear less profitable than it actually was.

The RORB is a measure of profitability and is computed as net income over assets. Net income is computed as revenue minus operating expenses, and it is in this item that Meralco includes income tax payments to help deflate its RORB.

In 1998, the ERB found that Meralco kept its RORB down and within the 12-percent ceiling for regulated utilities by including in its P38 billion in operating expenses in 1994 the P2 billion in income tax payments. As a result, its net income went down.

This practice allowed Meralco to get an 18-centavo-per-kwh rate increase in 1994 from the ERB, then chaired by Rex Tantiongco.

In its pending petition for a rate increase before the ERC, the study computed that allowing Meralco to continue this practice of charging tax payments as part of operating expenses would give it a return of 16 percent on its computed RORB of P16.3 billion.

To further deflate the RORB, Meralco tried to increase its asset base by including items not directly used in the distribution of electricity, the study said. The bigger the assets, the bigger the profits needed to achieve a reasonable return.

Perez said that among the assets included in the rate base were the Meralco Theater, a recreation center, a hospital and a shooting range.

These are facilities being used by other Lopez-owned companies and thus should not be carried in Meralco's books, according to the energy secretary.

'Allegations are inaccurate, grossly unfair'

From page A1

rates. Currently, our RORB (return on rate base) is only 3.5 percent. Last year, we weren't able to declare dividends. We may have a harder time borrowing if this situation continues," he said.

Francisco said Meralco had asked the ERC that it be allowed to include income tax payments as part of operating expenses.

"I think the ERC has allowed some utilities to include this item in their operating expense. So why should Meralco be any different?" he said.

On systems loss, Meralco opted to use the more realistic level of 11.5 percent instead of 9.5 percent because the lower cap is "very unfair," according to Francisco.

"It is really up to the ERC to resolve the issue on working capital. On the revaluation of assets, I think we are allowed to do that," he said.

He pointed out that all the earnings from related businesses like pole rental were given back to the customers. "It would be better for us if we just stick to the law and just put in 50 percent of these earnings to reduce our distribution charges," he said.

Fed up with the criticisms against the inclusion of the Meralco Theater, hospital and shooting range in the utility firm's asset base, Francisco said Meralco was ready to exclude these items.

"If they keep on criticizing us about these things, the hospital and the theater, then we would remove it from the base just to get it over with. *Nakakainis na yan e*," he said.

"Even if we are allowed by law to include these assets, we will take them out just to deflect these undeserved criticisms," Francisco said.

US power, prayers no help to Burnhams

From page A1

Donald Wurster, chief of US Special Forces training Philippine troops in counter-terrorism on Basilan Island. The mountainous, jungle-clad province is about three times the size of Singapore.

"Either you know where they are and you're acting on it, or you don't know where they are and you're looking for them," Wurster told reporters. "We're looking for them."

Unmanned spy drones, thermal imaging cameras and other high-tech equipment have all failed to find the Burnhams.

A Philippine commander compared the hunt for the Burnhams to the hunt for Osama bin Laden, prime suspect in the Sept. 11 attacks in the United States.

"It's like asking `How come the US forces, with all their equipment, with all the bombings, we're not able to find Osama bin Laden?'" said Col. Alexander Aleo, who leads the bulk of the 5,000-plus Philippine troops on Basilan.

"Maybe it's easier to hide than to find," he said.

The 1,000 US soldiers training Philippine troops to fight the Abu Sayyaf bandits, linked by the United States to Bin Laden's al-Qaida network, represent America's biggest troop deployment in its war on terror after Afghanistan.

Wedding anniversary

The Burnhams' nightmare began on May 27 last year, a day after they arrived at the Dos Palmas beach resort off Palawan Island to celebrate their 18th wedding anniversary.

Abu Sayyaf gunmen, riding in motor boats, raided the resort at dawn, grabbing the Burnhams, another American and 17 Filipinos, and spiriting them away across 480 km of sea to their hideout on Basilan.

The bandits later beheaded the third American, Guillermo Sobero, and some of the Filipinos. Others were freed for ransom.

Mastery of the rugged terrain, where the bandits have lived all their lives, has helped them evade their hunters.

"You have to climb steep ridges, and do it slowly, or you are dead," said a soldier. "The jungles are infested with snakes, wild animals, mosquitoes and leeches that crawl into your eyes.

"And they have learned the techniques of hunters. They hear the smallest sound, and they are gone."

Troops also have to contend with local support for the Abu Sayyaf on the mainly Muslim island of 300,000 people.

Previously estimated to number 1,200, the group has shrunk to 100 hard-core members, after losses and defections. But that has helped them blend in with sympathetic villagers.

The Burnhams, surviving on root crops, bananas and an occasional rice or chicken meal, are forced to hike through jungles for hours on end as their captors evade troops.

In a video taken last November, Martin said he and Gracia shared a hammock, but "each night, I am chained to a tree by my left wrist."

"Every time I hear a twig snap, I think it's a gunshot," Gracia said as her husband stood beside her. Both looked emaciated. "I wake up hearing gunshots in the middle of the night."

"We always look at each other and I'd tell Martin, `I love you, I want you know it before I die.'"

Ultimately, officials say, money will resolve the issue.

The Abu Sayyaf has demanded a ransom of $2 million (P100 million). US officials said in April that $300,000 (P15 million) of privately raised money was paid. A spokesperson for the Burnhams later accused the Abu Sayyaf of double-crossing their families.

"The bottom line here is money," said Chris Puno, a local government spokesperson. "Without ransom, they will not be released."

Manila and Washington officially reject paying ransom while missionary friends of the couple keep praying.

"We recognize that God is ultimately in control of the situation," said New Tribes Mission chair Jody Crain.

US troops leaving

With the US presence set to end on July 15, the couple's ordeal raises questions about the outcome of the larger RP-US joint military effort against international terrorism.

The arrival of the US Special Forces in Basilan in February fueled hope of a swift rescue for the Burnhams, as clashes became more frequent and dozens of fleeing rebels were killed or arrested.

But President Macapagal-Arroyo kept the world's mightiest army on a tight leash, mindful of constitutional limits and local political sensibilities. The American troops were denied a direct combat role, but they were allowed to train Filipino soldiers in counter-terrorism and provide help in easing the island's poverty.

The New Tribes Mission website, which keeps a daily count of the days its missionaries have spent in captivity, acknowledges "that the best interests of US and Philippine government officials are not always the best interests of Martin and Gracia."

Gen. Richard Myers, chair of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, visited Basilan last month and said he was satisfied with the broad progress of the anti-terror effort there.

But he had no good news for the Burnhams' three young children, farmed out to relatives in Wichita.

A more recent visitor, US Army Department Undersecretary Les Brownlee, admitted: "We're not there yet."

Abu Sayyaf leader Abu Sabaya has mocked the US effort. "The superpower is helpless," he told local radio by telephone last month. "How embarrassing."

Filipino officials had stressed early on that the US troops were not there to rescue the missionaries, who are being held with a Filipino nurse, Ediborah Yap.

According to them, their objective is to deny the al-Qaida terror network a possible Southeast Asian base from which to launch attacks after it was rooted out from Afghanistan.

"The coming of the US troops to Basilan did not have the specific object of freeing the hostages but for training" local troops, Ms Macapagal said last week.

"For that objective, they have been successful. We have been fighting terrorism for many years in southern Philippines and they have been there only for four months. This is a short period."

"We know how they (Burnhams as well as their families and friends) feel," said Maj. Gen. Glicerio Sua, head of a Philippine military rescue task force.

"The only advice we can give is to pray for a happy ending."

Banking on luck

More than anything else, the military is banking on luck to rescue the Burnhams from the Abu Sayyaf.

"We know where they are. We're hoping that luck will be on our side. We need luck at this time," Lt. Col. Jose Mabanta, Armed Forces spokesperson, said when asked about how close the military was to rescuing the couple.

The last time the military had sightings of the couple was weeks ago, he said.

"It can come anytime," Mabanta said of the rescue.

The military has reduced the Abu Sayyaf's capability to mount more kidnappings, Mabanta pointed out.

"We have downgraded their military capability from 600 to 60 personnel. So far, there has been no kidnapping in the past several months. From 22 hostages, which reached 93 at one point, we're down to only three," he said, referring to the Burnhams and Yap. "Isn't that an accomplishment?"

Mabanta said the military was still verifying reports that the bandits were holding the Burnhams separately to keep government troops off their track.

No apologies

Acting Press Secretary Silvestre Afable said yesterday there was nothing to apologize for the military's failure in rescuing the Burnhams.

"This is really a very difficult operation. So, there is really nothing to be sorry about," he said. "It is not really a matter of embarrassment. First and foremost, the military is doing what it can. We cannot say that we are embarrassed but we ask the public to bear with our efforts in the meantime."

Afable disagreed with observations that the government was running out of excuses, saying the military wants a safe rescue of the Burnhams.

"This is the price we have to pay," he said.

He said US Defense Undersecretary Paul Wolfowitz, who is due in Manila in the next few days, would hold consultations with Filipino military commanders directly in charge of the operations in Basilan.

Afable said Wolfowitz would also talk with high Philippine officials regarding "policy." ***Reports from Reuters, AFP, TJ Burgonio and Carlito Pablo***

Covered-up Claudia disappoints wedding crowd

From page A1

Schiffer, who at 31 is still one of the world's most photographed women, was determined not to be snapped for her wedding to British film producer Matthew Vaughn.

The elaborate disguise and huge security operation as Schiffer left her hotel ensured that neither the world's media or curious villagers caught an unauthorized peek at her gown.

SCHIFFER

"We were all so disappointed and disgusted," said Janet Damant, who had hoped to see Schiffer leave for her wedding at St. George's Church in Shimpling, eastern England.

"When she came out all covered up like that and swept past us, everyone just booed. All we wanted was a smile and to wish her well but we didn't even get a glimpse," Damant added.

Star guests included German tennis player Boris Becker, who is more used to five-star service and valet parking. He nonetheless brought a touch of glamour to the country lane where 300 people waited in front of the church.

Others, including Madonna's husband film director Guy Ritchie, were smuggled in a back entrance. The bride took the same route, arriving hidden behind curtains in a silver Bentley.

The supermodel, who wore a fairytale-style ivory silk Valentino gown, could scarcely have chosen a more picture perfect location than Shimpling, with its clutch of pretty thatched roof cottages set amid rolling green fields.

Following the ceremony, the Rev. Ian Friars emerged from St. George's Church to confirm the marriage had taken place.

"With Matthew and Claudia's agreement, I can confirm that they married . . . this afternoon," he said. "The service was according to the rites of the Church of England . . . (and) reflected the couple's faith and commitment to each other."

Bemused, amused

The cloak-and-dagger preparations, coupled with the arrival of an army of security guards and the press, have bemused and amused the people of Shimpling and neighboring Lawshall, where the couple were hosting a lavish wedding reception at their Elizabethan manor house Coldham Hall.

One woman said rumors of a celebrity wedding spread quickly but many people got the wrong idea.

"Some people thought it was Prince Charles and Camilla Parker Bowles getting married because of all the secrecy and security. It was quite a letdown to find out it wasn't."

Teenage girls crowded outside the church said they had forsaken an afternoon of exam study in the hope of catching a glimpse of a movie star or pop singer.

"I don't really care about my exams if I get a glimpse of Brad Pitt or Madonna," said Lizzie Barlow, 16, before the ceremony. She was bitterly disappointed that neither celebrity was at the church.

When asked why the supermodel had opted for such privacy, a spokesperson for Schiffer said she was entitled to be as private as she wished on her big day.

Schiffer and Vaughn had been engaged for 16 months. The model, who was formerly engaged to US magician David Copperfield, apparently fell for Vaughn, 31, after he presented her with a tortoise.

The reception reportedly included a meal of gulls eggs and Dom Perignon champagne, followed by a disco with a 1980 theme.

The soccer-mad newlyweds were planning to top off festivities with a celebrity football match in the grounds of Coldham Hall on Sunday morning.

Schiffer, who has a reputation for being frugal with money, reportedly chose a mixture of budget practical goods and pricey designer ware for her wedding list, with items ranging from $14 dinner plates to a $1,290 cut glass cup.

The couple, both multi-millionaires, said they had not signed a pre-nuptial agreement but had verbally agreed not to claim any of the other's fortune in the "unlikely event" of a split. *Reuters*

The Art of Defining Space

Max Restaurant, Harrison Plaza

Variwall

Folding Door Partition

varifold architectural products, inc.
The art of defining space
3187 Kalayaan Avenue, Makati City Tel. Nos.: 8820271 to 73 / 7292667 Fax: 8820269 e-mail: avi@varifold.com / www.varifold.com
Plant Address: Sitio Payong, Brgy. Dalig, Antipolo City

After reading our ads,
thousands everywhere agree.
Low interest rates on your home loan
are simply not good enough.

5 years @ 0% INTEREST*

Call: 848-5519 loc. 710 to 712
759-4861 to 65
Fax: 759-4860
or e-mail us at fiveyears@no-cost.com.ph
or text 0917-8445519

* Applicable to the last 5 years of the 15 year loan term
- No transfer cost, appraisal, mortgage & application fees
- Initially available in Metro Manila, Cavite, Laguna, Rizal (Cainta, Antipolo & Taytay)
- New loans/borrowers are also welcome

Chinatrust
One of the country's best performing banks.

MEMBER: PDIC

Promo runs from April 29 to July 29, 2002
Per DTI-NCR Permit # 1590, Series of 2002

ALABANG • ARRANQUE • BINONDO • CARMONA • CAVITE • CEBU • GREENHILLS • KALOOKAN • MABINI • MARIKINA • MAKATI • ORTIGAS • PASONG TAMO • STA. ELENA • SUBIC • SUCAT • VALENZUELA • WEST AVENUE

SUPERLOTTO 6/49

49 11 48 19 47 34

SPORTS

Editor Al S. Mendoza ◎ Assistant Editor Edwin M. Villanueva

Peñalosa faces suspension

FORMER WBC champion Gerry Peñalosa, who captured the North American Boxing Federation title Saturday with a convincing decision over Oscar Andrade of Mexico, faces an automatic 60-day medical suspension according to his manager, lawyer Rudy Salud. Salud said that the nasty cut suffered by Peñalosa because of an accidental head-butt in the eighth round bled profusely and needed stiches.

Purefoods captures PBA crown

By June Navarro

PUREFOODS completed its dominance over Alaska with a 91-76 victory to rule the PBA Samsung Governors Cup before a sellout crowd last night at the Araneta Coliseum.

The Hotdogs sizzled hot, stepping on the gas early on and masterfully coasted along en route to their sixth franchise crown since joining the league in 1988.

The Hotdogs also authored one of the greatest comebacks in the league as they became the first team in 20 years to rally from a 0-2 deficit and win a title in the PBA's 27-year history. Toyota did it against San Miguel in 1982.

Purefoods mentor Ryan Gregorio also barged into the record books as the 30-year-old former UP Maroon became the first rookie coach to win a Game 7 and the third youngest ever to clinch a championship trophy.

"It's not easy to defeat Alaska. I am just lucky to have players who played all out and two imports who are willing to play with my system," said Gregorio, who joined Tommy Manotoc and Chot Reyes in the elite list.

The Hotdogs started strongly and took a 24-10 advantage as Kelvin Price, Kervy Raymundo, and Rey Evangelista joined hands

Old reliables Ronnie Magsanoc, Alvin Patrimonio and Derrick Brown also had shining moments in foiling the Aces from bagging their 11 title overall.

Raymundo, who pumped in for 12 points at the height of the Hotdogs' breakaway, was adjudged as the Finals MVP. At 20, the former Letran standout became the youngest MVP in a finals series.

Alaska mounted a 16-4 run in the third quarter to come close, but the Hotdogs simply quelled the uprising.

A drive by Roger Yap, a Magsanoc triple and Brown's seven straight markers in the fourth halted the Alaska, which was trying to become the first team to win a title despite losing three straight games in a series.

The Hotdogs, on the other hand, escaped the ignominy of becoming the only squad to lose a title after winning three consecutive games.

Scores:

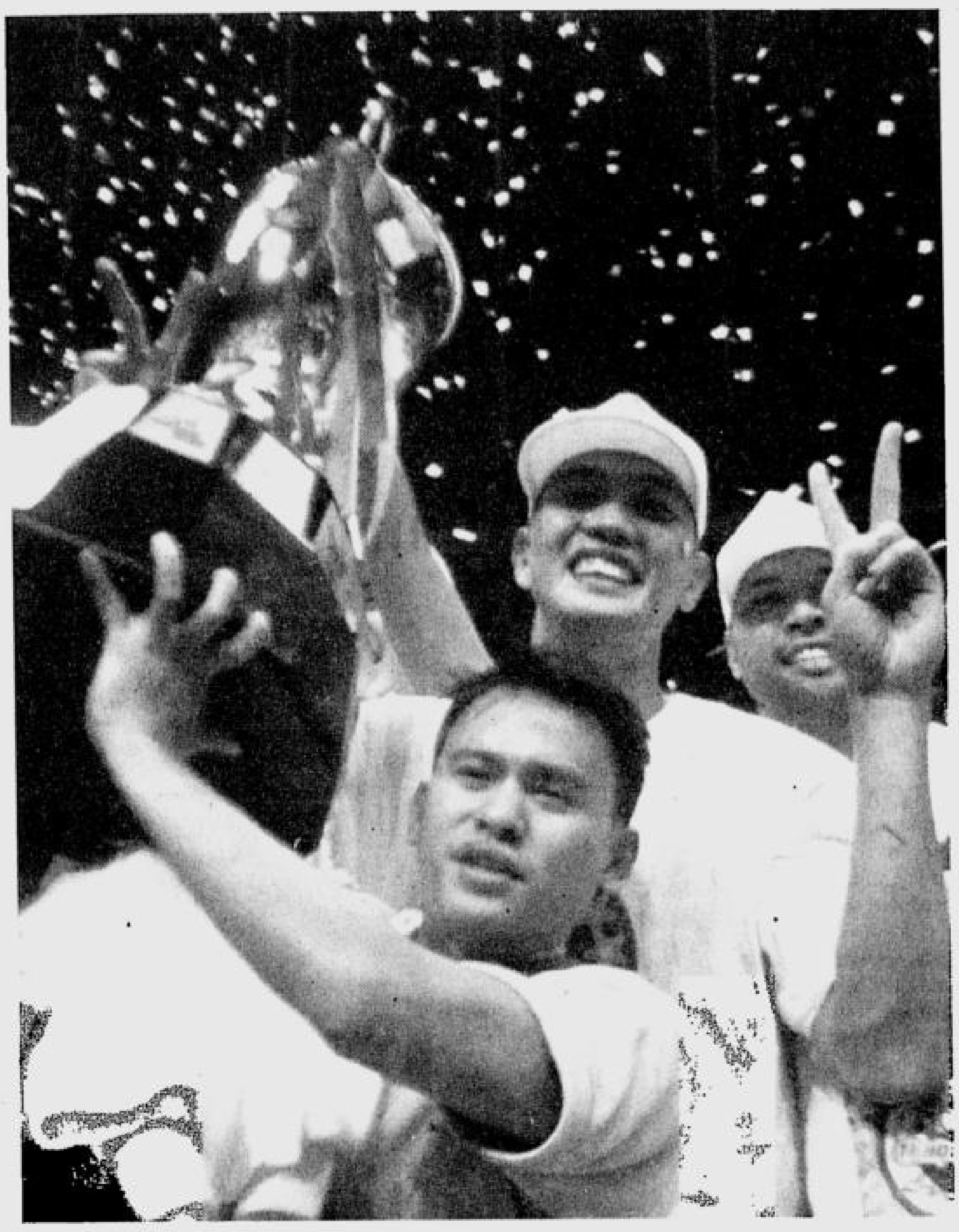
PUREFOODS 91—Brown 21, Price 19, Raymundo 14, Evangelista 12, Magsanoc 12, Patrimonio 11, Yap 2, Yee 0.

ALASKA 76—Head 29, Riley 26, Arigo 8, Allado 6, Gahol 5, Santos 2, Noble 0, Wallkvist 0, Lastimosa 0.

Quarters: 24-10, 44-30, 65-54, 91-76.

PBL today

(Pasig Sports Center)
3 p.m.—Blu Sun Power vs. ICTSI-La Salle
5 p.m.—Shark vs Ateneo-Hapee-Negros Navigation



PUREFOODS coach Ryan Gregorio hoists the PBA Samsung Cup as Finals MVP Kerby Raymundo flashes the victory sign. ROMY HOMILLADA

RCPI beats LBC again

By Roy Luarca

GAME SATURDAY (Lipa Cultural Center)
6 p.m.—RCPI Negros vs LBC Batangas

BACOLOD CITY—RCPI Negros' strength emanates from the backcourt.

This was proven again yesterday as Dino Aldeguer struck the hardest in the Slashers' 75-68 victory over the LBC Batangas Blades, giving them a commanding 2-0 lead in their MBA First Conference finals at the University of St. La Salle Coliseum here.

Aldeguer, taking over from Game One top scorer and backcourt partner Dennis Madrid, sprayed three straight triples in an 11-point cluster that shove the Slashers ahead for good at 50-42.

The Blades threatened at 64-60, but the Slashers silenced them for good with a 7-1 run capped by another triple by Aldeguer for a 71-61 spread with less than three minutes left.

Aldeguer finished with 22 points, six rebounds, two assists and two steals and was named Hardcourt Hero of Game Two.

Unlike in Game One, which the Slashers handily won (89-80), the Blades put up a tough fight and led up to the early part of the third quarter, 42-39.

It was then that Aldeguer took over.

"We've accomplished our first mission (sweep the first two Games in Bacolod) and we hope to end the series in Batangas," said RCPI Negros coach Joshua Villapando.

Alex Compton, playing decoy, drove through the shaded lane before passing off to the waiting Ralph Rivera on the left flank. Rivera hit a triple with 3 seconds left to give the Blades a 38-34 halftime lead.

The Blades started to miss their outside shots and found themselves trailing at 62-52, early in the fourth quarter following a three-pointer by Madrid and a Blitz 3 by Frechie Ang.

Scores:

NEGROS 75—Aldeguer 22, Hugnatan 18, Ferriols 8, Madrid 8, Francisco 6, Ang 5, Bautista 3, Espiritu 3, Dela Rosa 2, Gamboa 0.

BATANGAS 68—Laure 14, Rivera 14, Compton 12, Espinosa 8, Sanders 7, Cuevas 6, Martin 2, De Castro 1, Ramirez 0.

Quarters: 20-17, 34-38, 54-50, 75-68.

Celts turn back Nets for 2-1 edge

BOSTON—Paul Pierce and the Boston Celtics pulled off the greatest fourth-quarter comeback in NBA playoff history.

Pierce scored 19 of his 28 points in the final 12 minutes Saturday night as Boston overcame a 21-point deficit to beat the New Jersey Nets, 94-90, in Game 3 of the Eastern Conference finals.

No team had ever come back from more than an 18-point deficit at the start of the fourth quarter, and Pierce certainly didn't look like a candidate to pull off a miracle as he missed 12 of his first 14 shots.

But he began driving the ball to the basket with reckless abandon in the final quarter, and the Celtics never relented as they outscored the Nets 41-16 in the fourth to take a 2-1 lead in the best-of-seven series.

Many of the Celtics raced to center court as the final buzzer sounded, and Boston coach Jim O'Brien pumped his fist in what was for him a rare display of delight.

"I've never been a part of anything like this in my life," said Antoine Walker, who added 23 points and helped keep the Celtics within striking range—if being down by as many as 26 can rightfully be called striking range—until the fourth.

The fourth-quarter charge began the moment the Celtics touched the ball to begin the period as Pierce scored three baskets from inside during an 11-0 run that got the crowd back into the game and cut the Nets' lead to 74-64.

Game 4 is on Monday night (Tuesday morning in Manila). *AP*

Wilson aces stamp class anew

WILSON-SPONSORED players have once more stamped their class in the annual Philippine amateur golf championships at the Eagle Ridge Golf and Country Club, the country's biggest golf complex

Even before the championship trophy was disputed via a marathon 36-hole duel, a Wilson victory was already assured since both Que and Delariarte are both playing under Wilson's red banner.

Delariarte went on to beat Que, 1 up, after a bizarre ending of missed putts from short distance on the final hole.

"We feel honored in being associated with the country's top two amateur talents. Though Angelo failed to rewrite history, Jerome really worked hard for his first major title," said JunJun Plana, general manager of Wilson Philippines.

QUE

DELARIARTE

Wilson has been solidly backing the equipment needs of Que and Delariarte, who also belong to the same Manila Southwoods squad supported by Bob Sobrepeña, in their local and international campaigns.

They are expected to lead the country's big in the coming Asian Games in Busan, South Korea.

One of the world's top sporting brands, Wilson just launched its high-technology Wilson True balls which is out to challenge the dominance of the other brands in the local market.

Golf Classic to benefit Makatarungan

WITH PriceSmart providing the needed sponsorship, the Philippine Military Academy Class '78 is organizing an 18-hole fund-raiser for the Makatarungan Foundation on June 8 at the challenging Camp Aguinaldo Golf Club course.

Dubbed as the PriceSmart-PMA Class '78 Golf Classic, the tourney will feature both the active officers from the branches of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, supporters and special guests. Tickets are priced at P1,500.

Preparing for the influx of entries and also to get as many players in the awardings as possible, the organizing committee led by Col. Delfin Bangit has set tee-off to start as early as 6 a.m.

Bangit added that the System 36 format of scoring will be used to balance the competition especially for those without established handicaps.

PriceSmart, formerly known as the S&R Price Membership Shopping with branches at The Fort, Congressional Ave. and Ortigas Ave. extension, and several corporate and individual backers, are also donating the prize package for the tourney.

The Makatarungan Foundation was established to provide scholarships grants for children of deceased members of Class'78.

16th RGFFP southern leg gets more support

THE 16TH edition of the Rotary Golfing Fellowship Foundation of the Philippines (RGFFP) southern leg in Bacolod on June 13-15 is poised to become one of the biggest sporting events in the south this year with the expected arrival of no less than 200 players from all points of the country's golfing map.

Swinging Rotarians from Metro Manila, Luzon and Mindanao will be joining their hosts from the Visayas in the three-day bash at the Negros Occidental Golf and Country Club also known (Marapara) and the Bacolod Golf and Country Club (Binitin).

Already assured of major backing from Taylor Made Adidas, PLDT, Cebu Pacific and Casino Filipino, support for the RGFFP tilt continued to swell with L'Fisher Hotel and RGFFP Chair Bimbo Salazar's La Salle Bacolod High School Batch '67. Other supporters are Asahi Glass, General Nutrition Centers, Menzi & Co. and PDG Nemesio Peralta.

Registration and payments can be coursed through the RGFFP Secretariat through Pancho Perea or Erica Pekson (tel. no. 7210564/7218896, fax 7218896/7215940), Alex Montelibano for Negros/Iloilo/Dumaguete participants (tel. nos. 034-4411190, 034-4411735), Anton Florendo for Cebu/Leyte/Cagayan de Oro/Iligan entries (tel. nos. 032-2535720, 032-2535728) and Ramon Garcia for Davao and Southern Mindanao players (tel. nos. 082-2212480, 082-2218162).

Finex Masters meet June 5

THE FINANCIAL Executives Institute of the Phils. (Finex), the Philipines' largest association of CFOs, will hold the 2nd Finex Masters Cup at the Wack Wack Golf and Country Club West Course on June 5. Tee-off time will be at 6:30 a.m.

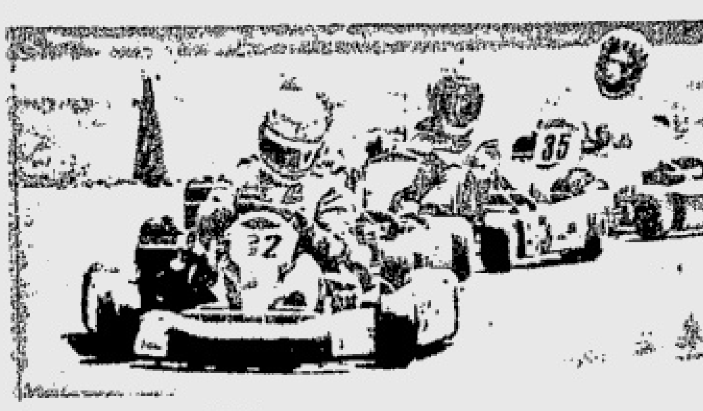
Finex president Conchita L. Manabat is inviting Finex members and guests to participate in the annual fund-raising event that will benefit its outreach programs such as Kalinga sa Batang Lansangan at Kapuspalad project for Tuloy sa Don Bosco Alabang, Operation Tulong Kabuhayan for abused children and women of Marilac Hills, and wheelchair donations in cooperation with Rotary Club of Palanan and the National Council for the Disabled.

Generous prizes await Masters Cup and lucky draw winners made possible by Monsanto Phils Inc. the Cup's presentor, and major sponsors PLDT, Microsoft Phils Inc. and Seadoo.

Hole sponsors are Equitable PCI Bank, Fil-Pacific Apparel Corp./JAG, Superior Maintenance Services Inc., Nike Phils, Phinma, Prudentialife Group, YKK Zipper Phils. Inc., Shell-Citiban Mastercard/Shell Fleet Plus, Nissan Car Lease Phils Inc. and Splash Corporation. Major raffle donors are Citibank Credit Card, Smart Communications Phils., Investments Underwriting Services Inc., Master Brands Inc., and Pacsports Phils, Inc.

All participants will be given one year golf insurance coverage from Malayan Insurance.

For inquiries, call Sylvia Refuerzo at 811-4052.



KARTING ACTION

Intelco's JP Carino (No. 32) leads JP Tuason (covered), Lee Bumgarner (No. 43) and Othmar Stutz (No. 35) in the Formula Rotax 125 race. But Bumgarner eventually won the said race in the fourth leg of the 2002 Shell Super Karting Series at the Carmona Circuit Philippines sponsored by Pilipinas Shell, Casino Filipino, Bridgestone, ZED, Nokia, Coca-Cola Bottlers and Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office through general manager Ver Angelo.

How efficient are the GAB, PBA?

CLEAN LIVING

Manolo R. Iñigo

THIS incident happened to me and I am not taking it lightly because it is a reflection of the efficiency of the Games and Amusements Board and the Philippine Basketball Association at dealing with the public.

At a little past 3 o'clock in the afternoon last Thursday, May 23, I called up GAB chair Eduardo Villanueva and PBA Commissioner Jun Bernardino to follow up my exclusive report on the PBA's non-payment to the GAB of accumulated income from the radio and television rights dating back to 1999. I also wanted to inquire about the PBA proposal seeking an extension to settle its long-standing obligations up to the year 2004.

Both were unavailable.

A GAB secretary named Weng said, "Chairman Villanueva was in a closed-door meeting." However, after noting down the purpose of my call, she assured me they would call back. Over at the PBA, I was told that Bernardino was not in the office and, although his deputy Sonny Barrios was around, he was busy on the other line. I was also assured that they would call back.

But after waiting the whole afternoon—and until after office hours that Thursday—neither Villanueva nor Bernardino (and Barrios) bothered to contact me at all.

* * *

JOB WELL DONE. Team owner and national shooting champion Nathaniel "Tac" Padilla and his father, Olympian Tom Ong, deserve a pat on the back for bankrolling the Spring Cooking Oil basketball team which recently won the National Interclub crown at the Cebu Coliseum. High-leaping Jeremy Robinson played hard and tough," said coach Tito Palma, who also piloted the team to the national championship last year. "They played with a lot of guts."

Robinson sizzled with 30 big points.

* * *

For inquiries, call fax/phone (044)933-1214.

SPORTSWATCH

Weights submission

SUBMISSION of weights in connection with the 3rd Conference LGBA 7-Cock Championship Derby is set today (May 27) at the Mandaluyong Coliseum. Entries will be accepted from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. The derby fires off tomorrow and on Thursday (May 28 and 30), with Pagcor, Casino Filipino-Parañaque, Thunderbird Enertone, Pit Fighter Feeds, Wormal and the dynamic trio of Promotor '43, Voltplex KQ and Respigen-15 as sponsors. Likewise, LGBA president Boy Diaz announced that LGBA's membership now swelled to 84 from an original cast of 48 last season. The new members will see action in the upcoming stag derby series in November. Meanwhile, set at Mandaluyong Coliseum on June 4, 6 and 8 is the much-awaited 2002 Mandaluyong 9-Cock International Derby with OPMI president Vic Yu and Ramon Mansenares as hosts.

NCA derby today

NERVE-FRAZZLING matches await the fans during the NCA 7-Cock Derby today (Monday) at the air-conditioned Araneta Coliseum. It will be hosted by Alan tan, John Capinpin, Pampanga's noted Madlambayan brothers, Ruel Feliciano and sons and the pioneer National Cockers Association. The country's leading cocker-breeders are taking part, including Big Dome owner Nene Araneta, Danding Cojuangco, Peping Cojuangco and his longtime partner Esting Teopaco, the venerable James Chiongbian, former Rizal Gov. Ito Ynares, twice Cocker of the Year Jun Santiago, Pampanga's famous June and Rudy Jingco, Mayor Eddie Alarilla, and lawyer Rudy Salud, among others.

Tiger 12 behind

DUBLIN, Ohio—Tiger Woods was nowhere to be found the last time Bob Tway won the Memorial Tournament. That appears to be the case this year, too. On a day that produced low scoring and big mistakes, Tway played bogey-free in a round of 4-under 68 on Saturday and grabbed a one-stroke lead over Stewart Cink going into the final round at Muirfield Village Golf Club. Woods had an even-par 72. He finished at 216, a dozen strokes out of the lead in a tie for 56th. *AP*

Diaz paces Jones

CORNING, New York—Laura Diaz shot a 3-under 69 Saturday to take the lead in the LPGA Corning Classic, with Rosie Jones lurking one shot back in quest of her third victory in the tournament. Diaz, who has been atop the leaderboard after each round, was at 12-under 204. Her birdie on the par-5 12th was the difference between her and Jones, who had a 67. Silvia Cavalleri of Italy stayed under the radar with a steady 70 and was alone in third, three shots behind. *AP*

Martina's mark

MADRID—Former world number one Martina Navratilova became the oldest woman to win a WTA tour title when she won the Spanish Open doubles with partner Natasha Zvereva of Belarus on Saturday. They beat Spain's Arantxa Sanchez Vicario and Paraguay's Rossana de los Rios, 6-2, 6-3.The 45-year-old American, who returned to the doubles circuit in 2000 after a six-year retirement, beat the previous record held by compatriot Billie Jean King. King won her final tournament in Birmingham in 1983 at the age of 39. *Reuters*

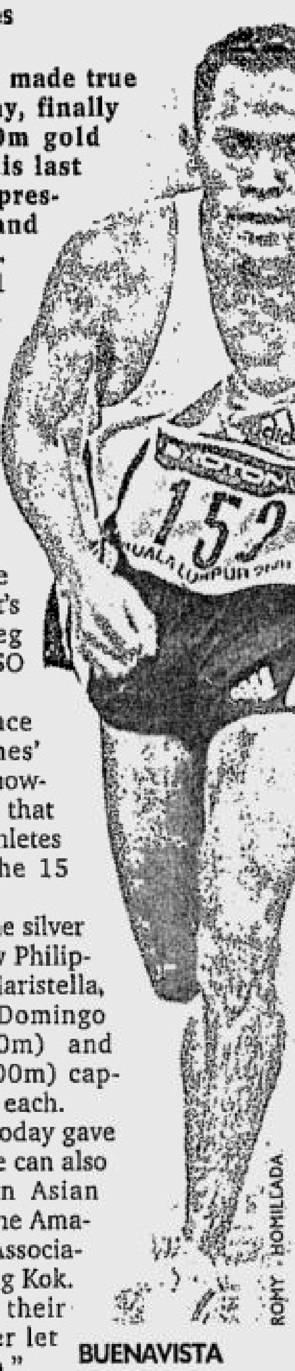
Seles whips Rubin

MADRID, Spain—Monica Seles routed Chanda Rubin 6-4, 6-2 Saturday to claim her 53rd career singles title at the Madrid Open. Seles, who went into the tournament ranked sixth on the WTA tour, defeated the 65th-ranked Rubin in one hour and seven minutes in the all-American final. *AP*

'Vertek' delivers in Asian GP

Lozada breaks RP record

By Marc Anthony Reyes



ROMY HOMILLADA

BUENAVISTA

EDUARDO Buenavista made true his promise yesterday, finally capturing the 3,000m gold that eluded him in his last two attempts in the prestigious Asian track and field championships.

The 4-foot-11 Buenavista knelt and raised his hands before the applauding crowd at the Rizal track oval after besting first and second leg winner Sivananda of India amid the late afternoon drizzle that threatened to delay the later events of the meet's third and final leg dubbed as the PSC-PCSO Grand Prix.

His performance capped the Philippines' surprisingly strong showing in the tournament that featured the top six athletes in Asia in each of the 15 events held.

John Lozada took the silver in the 800m via a new Philippine record even as Maristella, Torres (long jump), Domingo Manata (men's 400m) and Lerma Bulauitan (100m) captured a bronze medal each.

"Our performance today gave me confidence that we can also deliver in the Busan Asian Games," said Philippine Amateur Track and Field Association president Go Teng Kok. "They really poured their everything and never let our countrymen down."

Buenavista, known as "Vertek" after meeting an accident while attempting a vertical flip, wisely stuck close to his Indian rival in the middle of the pack before charging to the lead in the last two laps.

"I know that he will start making his move once he sees that I'm already tired," said Buenavista, winner of 3,000m steeple chase and 1,500m run golds in last year's Southeast Asian Games. "But I never gave him that chance."

True enough, the Sto Niño, South Cotabato native picked up speed even more in the far turn before going full steam ahead to the finish line to the cheers of the crowd that last witnessed a tournament this big in 1993 when Elma Muros won the long jump bronze in the Asian Championships.

Lozada also provided thrill earlier when he paced the pack most of the way before allowing South Korean Lee Jae-Hoon to overtake him in the final 50 meters.

The 28-year-old from Iloilo City nevertheless turned in an impressive time of one minute, 47.77 seconds (0.71 second off the Korean's time) which broke the 20-year-old record of Isidro del Prado which is 1:48:37.

Torres leaped to a distance of 6.38 meters in her second attempt to nose out Bulauitan for the bronze, behind first placer Yelena Kashcheyeva of Kazakhstan (6.50m) and Anju George of India (6.45m).

But Bulauitan made up in the century dash, clocking 11.61 seconds to finish third behind India's Saraswati Saha (11.52) and Thailand's Orranut Klomdee (11.58).

Nat'l triathlon slated

A BATTLE royale among top Filipino triathletes looms as the Enervon National Triathlon Championships gets under way at 6 a.m. on June 2, in Subic Bay, Zambales.

Out to dethrone defending national champion New Jersey-based Arland Macasieb are 2002 NTT champion Noel Salvador (Bacolod), the consistently improving Mark Candelaria (Laguna) and the comebacking John Abdul of the Philippine Air Force. Not to be outdone are dark horses Peter Gonzales (Quezon City), Chris Aldeguer (Cebu City), Abet Biagan (Cebu City) and George Vilog (Davao).

The distaff side in the event sponsored by the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority, Speedo, Enervon, Nestle PowerBar, Gerry's Grill, Asia-Pacific Insulation Corp, Hotel La Corona, Velocity Bikes, Crossover 105.1 FM, POC and PSC, sees an equally wide open fight for the crown.

SPORTS ON TV

Compiled by L. Manguiat

BASKETBALL: NBA Playoffs Conference Finals – Sacramento vs LA, Game 4 at 5:30 a.m., New Jersey at Boston, Game 4 tomorrow at 5:30 a.m. on ESPN

TENNIS: 2002 French Open beginning at 5 p.m. on Sky Cable and Home Cable 29

PCHelp COMPUTER SERVICE
IN HOME & IN OFFICE COMPUTER REPAIR
Honest and Experienced Technicians
✓ DIAGNOSTICS
✓ UPGRADES
✓ NETWORKING
✓ NEW COMPUTER SET UP
✓ MAINTENANCE
✓ PRINTER/MONITOR REPAIRS
✓ SOFTWARE PROBLEMS/ INSTALLATION
LOWEST PRICES JOBS GUARANTEED
727-2222

MAPÚA TECH ALUMNI SETS 2002 YUCHENGCO GOLF CUP MAY 29 AT TAT FILIPINAS

The 2002 Ambassador Alfonso T. Yuchengco NAMA Golf Cup will be held on Wednesday, May 29, 2002, at the TAT Filipinas Golf Club, San Pedro, Laguna. Tee-off starts at 6:30 a.m.

The Mechanical Engineering Alumni Association of MIT (MEAAMIT) is hosting the 2002 Yuchengco Golf Cup for the National Association of Mapua Alumni (NAMA). It is presented for Mapuans and their friends by the Yuchengco Group of Companies (YGC) and is sponsored by Smart Communications, Teleglobe International, Electrobus Consolidated, SM Prime Holdings and Mirant Philippines, Inc.

The 2002 Yuchengco Cup will feature team and individual competitions. Electrobus Consolidated is offering their top-of-the-line driver, a *Callaway ERC II Big Bertha*, for the first hole-in-one or will be raffled off during the awarding ceremonies. For more information, call telephone numbers: 812-6947 or 819-7277, send fax message to 810-5374, or e-mail to cdcastro@info.com.ph.

I AM PROUD TO BE A MAPÚAN!
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MAPÚA ALUMNI
NAMA

Dress up your 2002
BUY FACTORY PRICE
REVO • ADVENTURE • CROSSWIND
A.U.V. • S.U.V. • VANS • PICK-UP
Now Available:
ISUZU CROSSWIND
X.U.V. CONVERSION PACKAGE PROMO
(Pls. ask our package promo)
ADVENTURE ACCESSORIES:
Bulbar, Side Bar, Rear Bar, Bumper Overider, Chrome Mirror, Chrome Door Handle, Chrome Tail Lite, Trunk Lid Cover, Rear Spoiler, Roof Rail
TOYOTA REVO SPORTS RUNNER (SR) CONVERSION PACKAGE PROMO P18,000.00
Two-Tone Painting P 5,000 only
AVAIL PACKAGE PROMO !!! WRAP AROUND STAINLESS BULL BARS P 17,000 only (FRONT, SIDE, REAR)
ALSO AVAILABLE:
• ADVENTURE SUPER SPORT CONVERSION P 25,000
• HI-LANDER X-TRM CONVERSION P 30,000
• FUEGO SPORTS (4X4 LOOK) CONVERSION P 25,000
WE WILL BEAT Any Price in town
KIJANG
22 New York St. Cubao, Q.C.
PASAR MOBIL ACCESSORIES
1150 Alabang-Zapote Rd Almanza I Las Piñas City
7228085 • 413-8060 • 413-8077 • 0916-4358799

RUST eat your car very fast
MAKE YOUR CAR LAST...
✓ LIFETIME ELECTRONIC RUSTPROOF
ELECTRO-ANODE
The ELECTRONIC RUST control device for MOTOR VEHICLES which places a very slight electronic charge on the whole vehicle body which will make it resist or repel the corrosive effect of water and moisture. The device adopts the two technologies of rust prevention– Impressed Current and Sacrificial Anodes.
TESTED & PROVEN GUARANTEED EFFECTIVE
FREE SERVICE AND INSTALLATION WIN M MANILA
J-R POSADAS ENTERPRISES
☎ 435-56-24 • 928-33-89
14-C KALAYAAN AVE., near KAMIAS ROAD, Q.C.

Showroom Service Center
■ 593 McArthur Highway, 1400 Caloocan City ☎ 367-8485
■ 77 Cordillera St., Quezon City ☎ 732-8010/ 732-8012
■ Level 3 Prime Block, Tutuban Ctr., Manila ☎ 450-3415
WARNING: Only units purchased in the Philippines w/ validated Philippine Warranty Card will be serviced.

clarion
Welcome to the Expanding World of Car Entertainment
6.4" In-Dash
FM / AM Radio 6.5" In-dash Visual Centre Unit 4 x 40 W
TV Tuner
7" Stand
7" Headrest
6.5" TV
The Perfect Companion for Long Drives
VCD Adaptor
FM / AM Radio CD Player 4 x 45 W
FM / AM Radio CD / VCD 4 x 45 W
6.4" Overhead
6 Disc CD/CD-R/CD-RW/ VCD Changer
6 Disc CD Changer
VCD Adaptor
TV Antenna
Window Type 2-Way Diversity Antenna
4-Way Diversity
Whip and Window Type 4-Way Diversity Antenna
Accepting Reservation
DVD Video 5.1 Ch Surround In-Dash Dolby Digital
FM / AM Radio CD 7" In-dash Visual Centre Unit Touch Screen Control 4 x 45W

Mother's Best Marinade tenderizes any cut of meat while enhancing the natural meat juices. The longer you marinate, the stronger the flavor, the more tender the meat! Whether you grill it, smoke it, bake it or barbecue it, give your meat that zestful distinct flavor you only get with Mother's Best Marinade!

Juice it up with Mother's Best All-Purpose Marinade!
SARAP NG PINOY!
Mother's Best
Mother's Best BARBECUE MARINADE MIX

STAR WARS
EPISODE II
ATTACK OF THE CLONES
P250
P500 DISCOUNT CARD
P500
P300 DISCOUNT CARD
P300 DISCOUNT CARD

CARD ATTACK

FREE LIMITED EDITION CALL CARD

with every Globe Handyphone prepaid phone kit purchase!

FREE COLLECTIBLE DISCOUNT CARD

with every Globe Handyphone postpaid plan purchase!*

Use your Discount Card on handsets, accessories and bill payments. And it's a bag tag too!

P300 bonus prepaid credits for every Nokia 3310 purchase with the Great Globe Handyphone Prepaid Addvantage Promo. You also get bonus P100 prepaid credits for other Globe Handyphone prepaid phonekit and sim pack purchases.

- * The Force Discount Card: P500 discount (for G-TALK , G-TALK PLUS & G-MAX plans) P300 discount (for G-TEXT & G-MIX).
- * For post-paid plan purchase: Minimum of 24 months subscription. Pre-termination fee of P10,000 per line.
- * Validity of the Discount Card up to June 30, 2003.

Promo is from May 5, 2002 - June 30, 2002

See posters & flyers for details

FEEL THE FORCE

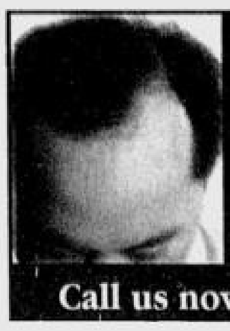
GLOBE TELECOM
Business Center

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1622 Series of 2002

www.starwars.com

© 2002 Lucasfilm Ltd. & TM.

MOTOLITE
EXPRESS HATID
843-1111
Available in Metro Manila only


STOP HAIR LOSS at SVENSON
Call us now! 372-6631

METRO

Editor Louie C. Camino

Barangay heads face raps over dirty villages

ABALOS

By Christian V. Esguerra

BARANGAY officials who fail to clean up their areas and comply with the government's waste management program will face a lawsuit for malfeasance from the Metro Manila Development Authority.

MMDA Chair Benjamin Abalos Sr. yesterday gave the warning even as he said he would hand out rewards and citations to barangay officials who have been efficient in fulfilling their duties in cleaning up the metropolis.

"Barangay chairpersons and *tanod* (village watchers) play a key role in the government's campaign to clean up Metro Manila," said Abalos. "The MMDA cannot do this alone."

He said barangay officers have been mandated to facilitate the collection of garbage and apprehend residents indiscriminately throwing garbage.

"There are tens of thousands of barangay officials in Metro Manila, but I have yet to hear of someone who has arrested people throwing garbage in *esteros*," he said.

To give negligent officers a "sample," Abalos said he would deploy MMDA personnel to take pictures of creeks and canals in the metropolis.

BARANGAY/ A26

TONGUE TWISTER
This girl from Tenejeros, Malabon tries to put her money where her mouth is in a contest during Sunday's feast of the district's patron saint. The contestant who first catches the coin with his or her mouth wins P50.
DENNIS SABANGAN

9 city jail inmates dead in 3 weeks

By Philip C. Tubeza

THREE more inmates of the Manila city jail died over the weekend, bringing to nine the number of detainees who have died due to various illnesses in the past three weeks.

Police said 25 inmates have died in the jail since January.

Ramon Tipura, 48, of Tondo, and Rodrigo A. Suyat, 28, of Sampaloc, died Saturday, while Felix R. Rodeo, 36, died yesterday, police said.

Initial investigation showed that all three died of natural causes, police said.

Tipura, who was arrested on April 25 for illegal drugs and trespassing, died before dawn Saturday due to a liver disease, said Detective David Tuazon. Tipura was first brought to the MCJ infirmary after he com-

9 CITY JAIL/ A26

8 GLASSES A DAY, HELPS KEEP THE DOCTOR AWAY.
Be Part of our Growing Testimonials.
Drink IONIQ
Ionized Alkaline Mineral Drinking Water
SUPPLEMENTS MEDICATION OF:
- diabetes and arthritis
- gout and kidney disease
- hyperacidity and hypertension

DELIVERIES • INQUIRIES • FRANCHISING
CALL THE IONIQ HOTLINE
41-IONIQ
or 414-6647
Tambo, Pr̃que: 8337343 · San Juan, MM: 7240614 · Antipolo: 6789505 · Bacolod: (034) 4336444 · Angeles: (045) 8871889 · Sucat, Pr̃que: 8297772 · Batangas: (043) 7782428 · Proj. 7,QC: 4146847 / 4103065 · Retiro, QC: 7406657 / 59 · Baesa, QC: 4539087 · Cubao, QC: 4365924 · El Grande: 8260690 · Cainta: 6780686 · Binondo: 2316498 · La Union: (072) 2427065

WAZZZZUP ?
ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE
BUMA 9991 KAMAGONG ST. MAKATI — DJ DICKER — NO ENTRANCE FEE, BUY 1 TAKE 1 ON LOCAL BEERS ☎ 896.1939
Cowboy Grill BIÑAN, LAGUNA — MIXED-UP, RIGIDITY — NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎ (049) 511.7268
Cowboy Grill BGY ALMANZA, LAS PIÑAS — STREETLIFE, BROWNIE/ MUSIC CIRCUIT — NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎ 801.7644
Cowboy Grill 1190 ARQUEZA ST., MANDI — GIFTED MIND/ ZEST, PERFECT STRANGER — NO ENTRANCE FEE 525.1474/525.4269
Cowboy Grill 431 REMEDIOS ST. MALATE — MR ROXY, PARTY-Z-POLE — NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎ 521.8143
Cowboy Grill NOVALICHES Q.C. — ICE KENDI, J BROTHERS — THE DAWN MAY 28 ☎ 936.9757
KAMPO 2088 #47 WEST AVENUE Q.C. — LADI, RAVE — ☎ 373.5110
TIA MARIA'S REMEDIOS COR. CAROLINA ST — ON LINE, D'BUMP — ☎ 522-0429
Tropical FOREST Cafe-Grill-Restaurant — MOONSTRUCKS — SOUP & SALAD BUFFET, FREE DRINKS P130 11AM-2PM ☎ 400-7438/39
MONDAY MAY 27 912-8983

THE PERFECT PAIR BY VEINCARE
THE TOTAL VEIN CARE CLINIC
- Injection/Compression Sclerotherapy
- Expert Treatment of Vein Disorders
- Venous Doppler Rheography
- Laser Vaporization

Careful clinical assessment and treatment of facial telangiectasias trunk hemangiomas, bulging hand veins, thigh and leg varicose veins, spiders and ankle ulcers.

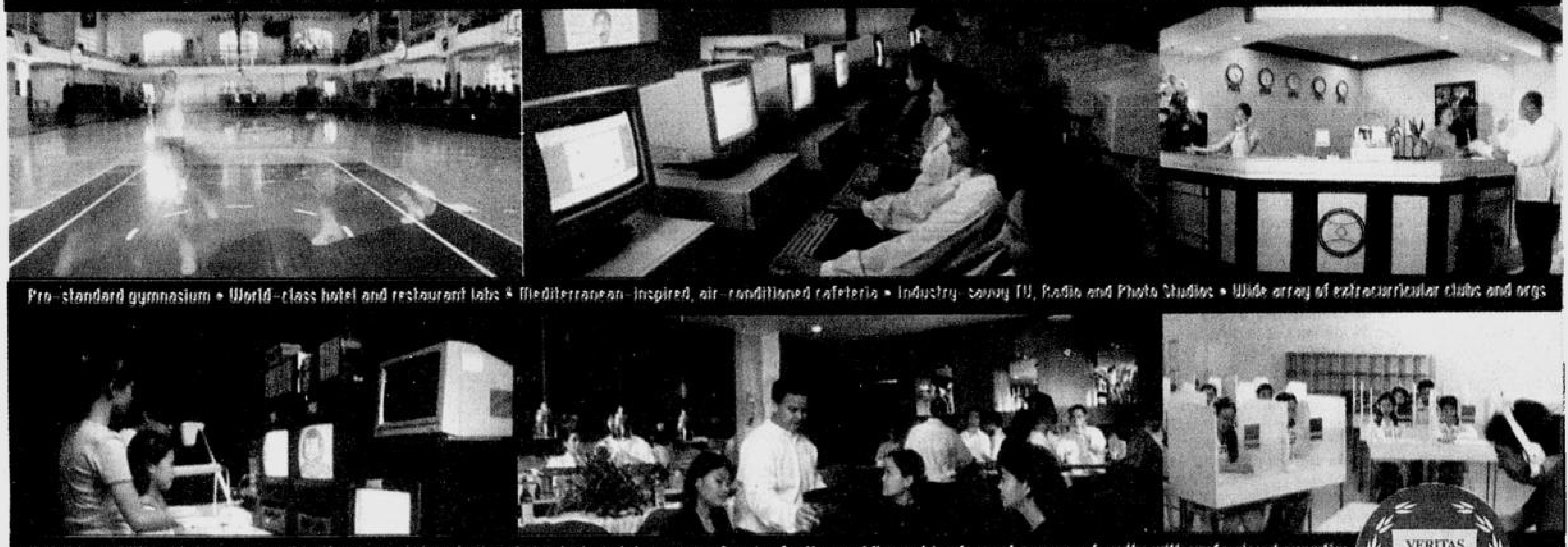
HEMORRHOID TREATMENT CENTER
- Hemorrhoids removed without surgery.

Safe and effective office treatment. Shrinks hemorrhoids fast without surgery. Thorough personal history and physical examination followed by expert care and prompt relief.

Vein Care Center Specialist
- Larry C. Tojino, MD
Certified Phlebologist International Union of Phlebology North American Society of Phlebology

VeinCareClinic
ORTIGAS
Bodyplace Phase N. Level 3 Robinson's Galleria, EDSA cor. Ortigas Ave. Q.C.
Telephone: 635-5496 635 7957 to 58
Monday to Friday 2 to 7PM
Sunday 4 to 7PM
MAKATI
Healthway Med-Clinic Greenbelt, Makati City
Tuesday, Thursday 11AM to 1PM by appointment only
PASAY-MANILA
Legend Mansion San Juan St., Pasay City
Telephone: 524-8068 / 69
Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10AM to 12NN
Tuesday Thursday 9:30 to 10:30AM

REVO PACKAGE
SHARK
SHARK Stainless Oval Rear Bumper w/ brake lights
Shark Roof Caddy w/ exclusive custom stainless bracket
SHARK Stainless Side Steptube w/ turning lights
Also available for ADVENTURE and XTO
FREE BALCONEE
When you buy the REVO Package at:
1013 EDSA, Q.C. Telephone No. 410-3067 / 410-3065 or 372-3640

THE FUTURE EXHILARATES.

Pro-standard gymnasium • World-class hotel and restaurant labs • Mediterranean-inspired, air-conditioned cafeteria • Industry-savvy TV, Radio and Photo Studios • Wide array of extracurricular clubs and orgs
Fully air-conditioned classrooms, labs, libraries and chapel • Located in historic Intramuros • Courses for the world's most in-demand careers • Faculty with professional expertise
VERITAS ET FORTITUDO
1952-2002
LYCEUM OF THE PHILIPPINES
FOCUS ON THE FUTURE
LYCEUM
Muralla cor. Real Intramuros, Manila **Tel** (02) 527-1758 **FAX** (02) 527-1761 **e-mail** lyceum_manila@yahoo.com www.lyceumphil.edu.ph
COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES AB Legal Studies •AB Mass Communication *Specialization*: Advertising, Broadcast Communication, Public Relations •BS Journalism •BS Psychology •BS Secondary Education *Major*: Physical Education **COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION** BS Accountancy •BS Office Administration •BS Business Administration *Major*: Banking & Finance, Management, Marketing, Retail Trade Management, Computer Data Management & Processing • Tariff & Customs Administration, Management Accounting, Entrepreneurship, Economics **COLLEGE OF COMPUTER STUDIES** BS Computer Science •BS in Information Technology •BS in Information Management **COLLEGE OF FOREIGN SERVICE** BS Foreign Service *Major*: Diplomacy, International Trade **COLLEGE OF INTERNATIONAL HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT** BS Hotel & Restaurant Management • BS Tourism **COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING** BS Electrical Engineering •BS Industrial Engineering •BS Computer Engineering • BS Mechanical Engineering •BS Electronics & Communications Engineering **COLLEGE OF LAW** Bachelor of Laws **TWO-YEAR COURSES** Associate in Office Administration (Computer-Oriented) •Associate in Retail Trade Management • Associate in Computer Technology • Associate in Hotel & Restaurant Management • Associate in Tourism **GRADUATE SCHOOL** Ph.D. in Fiscal Studies/Public Finance • Ph.D. in Public Policies & Business Management • Master in Public Administration • Master in Business Administration • Master of Arts in Economics • Master of Arts in Diplomacy • Master of Arts in Political Science •Master of Arts in Fiscal Studies •Master of Arts in Education *Major*: College Teaching, Guidance and Counseling, Management & Supervision
LYCEUM INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
LYCEUM OF BATANGAS
AFFILIATE SCHOOLS

What Drives You
The winning number combination for **May 27, 2002:**
0 zero | 2 two | 2 two
If your card matches the numbers above, you win ₱22.00.
- Up to ₱15 million worth of instant cash prizes!
- You could also be one of three lucky winners of up to ₱10 million in the raffle draw!
- Get your game cards at participating Caltex stations with every minimum purchase.
SCRATCHA NUMBA
Promo period is from March 15 - June 15, 2002 • Per DTI-NCR Permit no. 0245 Series of 2002 • See flyers for details.
What Drives You CALTEX

Toothpaste suspect dies during probe

By Jerome Aning

FELIX LEE Sy, 62, arrested for allegedly stealing a tube of toothpaste worth P55.50, died of an apparent heart attack Friday night while being investigated at the police station in Quiapo, Manila.

Sy, of Quezon City, collapsed at 11:20 p.m. while being questioned by SPO4 Josefino Serapio at the Western Police District Station 3 and was pronounced dead on arrival at the Jose Reyes Memorial Medical Center in Sta. Cruz, investigators said.

WPD homicide detective Raul Olavario said Sy was caught shoplifting at the Rempson Supermarket on Carriedo Street in Sta. Cruz by security guards Wilbert Aguilar and Edmar Navarro.

SPO4 Serapio said he had just started to question Sy when the man began squirming in his seat and then fell from it.

Investigators, not finding any external injuries on Sy, said they believed he succumbed to cardiac arrest.

Drunken cop kills 2

By Christian V. Esguerra

A DRUNKEN policeman allegedly killed two men and injured two others during a riot in Parañaque City early yesterday morning.

Police said PO1 Rolando Albios, 32, a member of the Philippine National Police Special Action Force, shot dead Jimmy Habil, 23, and Michael Carnate about 12:15 a.m. in a videoke bar on Kaingin Road in Barangay Sto. Niño.

Albios himself and his companion Bacholo Marcelino suffered stab wounds inflicted by the two men, police claimed.

Police said the companions of Habil and Carnate, Raymond Panes, 16, and Kenneth Castiloo, 20, suffered gunshot wounds and were brought to the Parañaque City Medical Hospital.

Investigation showed that Albios and Marcelino were drinking in the videoke bar when Marcelino suddenly punched one of the young men. The youths retaliated by stabbing Albios and Marcelino, police said.

Albios shot the youths with his 9-mm Berreta pistol, police said.

Albios and Marcelino were treated at the Parañaque hospital for their stab wounds, police said.

Is Luisito Espinosa II good as the original Lindol?

BARE EYE

Recah Trinidad

(THANKFUL TIP: From my *kumpadre*, Dr. Cris Reyes, tireless civic worker and sports enthusiast, this message: "I think your crusade regarding the inefficiency of our boxing officials is now bearing fruit. Gerry Pahayahay, a flyweight scheduled to fight in the main undercard of the Joma Gamboa title bout on May 31, approached me about the so many requirements before the bout, like chest x-ray, cbc, ecg, and lately CT scan of the brain. But his problem probably doesn't end there. Expenses for these tests, more so for aspiring new boxers, should be shouldered by promoters. But, from what I've learned, this is not the case. There are other sickening factors about boxing which I could share in our next meeting. Keep up the fight.")

***

HE was ordered to stick to the original formula.

So Luisito Espinosa charged in and hurt his opponent right after the opening bell.

He, however, waited until the second round before stopping the poor guy.

Ever Beleno, totally outclassed, ended flat on the canvas.

After collecting his purse, originally pegged at $4,000, Luisito headed straight with his family for a vacation in the world-famous Yosemite National Park.

He was still there when the INQUIRER managed to reach Luisito's discoverer, Hermie Rivera, in San Jose, California yesterday.

Hermie called Luisito's comeback victory a masterpiece.

***

Louie worked hard, he followed orders to the letter. The result was a big win.

That was Hermie's glowing assessment of the frail, dusky bamboo picker whom he plucked from the Tondo slums and turned into a world boxing king in 1989.

Hermie bared Luisito used the exact formula they had used against Thailand's Kaokur Galaxy whom Espinosa stopped right in the first round nearly 13 years ago to capture the WBA bantamweight crown.

In California, Luisito jumped in and started a clinical demolition job right after the first bell.

However, unlike in Bangkok in 1989, when Espinosa sent Galaxy cockeyed and senseless against the ropes with what was to be known as a phantom combination, the killer punches were very visible in California the other day.

***

It was a short right to the jaw that did it, Hermie explained.

On the whole, though, there was a barrage, he added, but that right — it was nifty mix between a hook and a straight — sealed the victory.

Despite the obstacles, like excess poundage, the years, and a heavy work load, Hermie swore Espinosa, after the trouble-free victory, has returned with a bang.

His confidence is back, *balik-confiansa*, Hermie explained excitedly.

Hermie said he next talked to Oscar de la Hoya, who put up the card at the Compaq Center, and the Golden Boy promised big things for Luisito.

To Hermie's surprise, De la Hoya confided that he was a great fan of Espinosa.

De la Hoya clashes with Fernando Vargas on Sept. 14 and there's a great chance Espinosa would see action in the undercard.

There are two possibilities. Either Espinosa gets an outright crack at Johnny Tapia's IBF featherweight crown, or he sees action in the eliminator for the vacant world junior lightweight title.

***

Hermie's excitement was all to be expected.

In fact, his gladness had obviously superseded the displeasure caused by the nearly $1,000 fine slapped on Luisito after the comebacking fighter failed to make the stipulated 129 pounds on his first try a day before the fight with Beleno.

It was a non-title fight, and the rule was you could go a little up or a little under, Hermie said.

Luisito, after a 30-minute workout, managed to trim down but California fight authorities refused to reconsider their decision to penalize him.

Hermie said he demanded an explanation but fight authorities pointed to strange factors, like a license fee, to justify the undue cut from Espinosa purse.

Already, a Filipino promoter owes Espinosa $130,000 which he cannot hope to collect, Hermie said, but that incident in California was totally inexplicable.

Anyway, closing happily, Hermie swore Espinosa is again ready for the big time.

***

Of course, we also have to strictly determine how ready.

Although it was bruited about that Beleno, whom Luisito flattened for good early in the second round, has a 38-win record, 35 of them coming by way of knockout, a review and reassessment could cast doubt on his true worth.

Pardon this, but it looks like Luisito could have used a more serious test, other than the wasted Beleno.

Hermie Rivera himself would admit that, contrary to earlier claims, Beleno did not win his last eight fights.

In fact, trusted fight chronicler Nick Giongco of Today, reading from official records, reported that prior to the meeting with Espinosa, Beleno had lost seven of his last eight fights.

Beleno last tasted victory in 1999.

Giongco added that five of those seven defeats for Beleno came either by technical or outright knockout.

***

But who are we to dispute joyful claims that Espinosa is again super fit and super sharp?

A win is a win. As they love to put it, you can't dispute success.

The greatest twist about that win by Luisito is that he's agreed to use his original weapon, the so-called *susi* (key) punch he had perfected in his younger reign as world champion.

Those who had followed Luisito's rise and fall knew all too well how he had blindly altered that tested style.

One time, he tried a loose, slapping stance, not unlike a swimmer's.

In another failed fight, he was punching from way above, with his blows swirling in late as though delivered from the sky by fighter planes.

He's back to his old winning ways, Hermie Rivera swore.

Nice to hear that.

Of course, only a big title fight would help determine if the Luisito who has won again in California is as good as the original wonder boy they once called Lindol (earthquake).

UP and Ateneo alumni offer the most affordable I.T. and Business education at

Thomas More College

THOMAS MORE

Before you enroll in other high-priced business and computer colleges, consider this new college in Quezon City first which makes quality education very affordable to provide more opportunities for those who want to "make a difference" in their future. For only two semesters per year, **Thomas More College of Computer and Business** offers B.S. in Computer Science, B.S. in Business Administration, B.S. in Information Technology, B.S. in Information Management, and Associate in Computer Technology (a 2-year course). The first 30 eligible enrollees will enjoy a **30% discount** while the succeeding 50 eligible enrollees will get a **15% discount** in tuition fees. Students may also be offered easy tuition fee installment plans and even full scholarship grants.

Thomas More College may look like an ordinary school but beyond its walls are loads of modern facilities and equipment, well-prepared curricula and innovative teaching methodologies. The faculty is composed of U.P. and Ateneo academicians and expert business practitioners who are committed to produce well-rounded graduates who have passion for work and service.

Interested applicants are invited to take the ongoing free assessment exams conducted at the **Thomas More College** campus (in front of Delta Theatre, near the intersection of Timog and Quezon Avenues). **Call 372-6652 or 372-4075 now and be the first to avail of our early enrollment discounts. Thomas More College** may be the kind of school for you!

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT of AGRARIAN REFORM

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 02

Series of 2002

SUBJECT : INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF THE CENTER FOR LAND USE POLICY, PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION (CLUPPI)

I. MANDATE

To effectively implement the provisions of Executive Order (EO) Nos. 129-A and 229 (1987), Republic Act (RA) No. 6657 as amended by RA No. 7881, RA No. 8435, EO 45 (2001), DAR Administrative Order (AO) No. 01 (2002), **and to provide effective means for the expeditious resolution of protest cases**, applications for land use conversion, **exemption and** exclusion of properties from CARP coverage, **DAR foresees** the need to institutionalize and strengthen the **Center for Land** Use Policy, Planning and Implementation **(CLUPPI).**

II. FUNCTIONS

The CLUPPI shall serve basically as the **"one-stop-shop"** which shall handle all matters regarding land use conversion, exemption and exclusion. Specifically, the primary functions of the CLUPPI are as follows:

a. Formulate and recommend policies, implement rules and regulations related to land use conversion of agricultural lands into non-agricultural uses, exemption and exclusion of properties from CARP coverage.
b. Undertake the review, evaluation and processing of all applications for land use conversion, exemption and exclusion, motion for reconsideration, petition for revocation of land use conversion order, forfeiture of any security offered to ensure compliance or any other matter incidental to the same, and to recommend the approval or disapproval thereof.
c. Conduct ocular inspection or verification of the area being applied for land use conversion, exemption and exclusion.
d. Coordinate and maintain continuing dialogue with government officials and other national government agencies such as the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA), Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Tourism (DOT), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Housing and Land use Regulatory Board (HLURB), Housing and Urban Development and Coordinating Council (HUDCC), and other concerned agencies and local government units on the matter of land use policies and land use planning, and with concerned non-government organizations (NGOs), peoples organizations (POs) and farmers or farmworkers affected by the applications for land use conversion, exemption and exclusion.
e. Convene regular Committee meetings including coordination and follow-up courses of action agreed upon during these meetings.
f. Monitor status of all applications for land use conversion, exemption and exclusion.
g. Exercise other functions as directed by the Secretary or his authorized representative to promote efficiency and effectiveness in the delivery of public service particularly on the matter of land use conversion, exemption and exclusion, land use policies and land use planning.

III. ORGANIZATION

A. NATIONAL LEVEL

1. The Center for Land Use Policy, Planning and Implementation (CLUPPI) shall be under the direct supervision of the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Planning and Legal Affairs.
2. Under the supervision of the Assistant Secretary for Policy and Planning and Legal Affairs, an Executive Director shall be designated by the Secretary to oversee and manage the operations of the CLUPPI.
3. The CLUPPI shall be staffed by a Secretariat composed of regular DAR personnel who are planners, engineers, legal officers, specialists, program officers, technical and administrative staff who shall be hired based on the required qualifications and relevant work experience.
4. The CLUPPI shall have two (2) main groups to carry out its functions and responsibilities:
   - **CLUPPI-1,** to handle processing of applications for land use conversion involving more than five (5) hectares, and other related tasks on land use policy and planning.
   - **CLUPPI-2,** responsible for processing of applications for exemption and exclusion, involving more than five (5) hectares, or other protests from coverage and the lifting of notice of coverage relative thereto.
5. The CLUPPI-1 and CLUPPI-2 shall be assisted by Committees each composed of designated members and headed by a Chairman designated by the Secretary.

B. REGIONAL LEVEL

1. The Regional Center for Land Use Policy, Planning and Implementation (RCLUPPI) shall be reconstituted in all Regional Offices of the DAR under the direct supervision of the Regional Director.
2. The Regional Director shall designate the highest official in the Region other than himself as head of the RCLUPPI Committee. Such head shall be assisted by two (2) regular Regional DAR personnel with a salary grade of twenty-four (SG-24) as members of the Committee and one (1) to two (2) persons as Secretariat/Administrative Staff. The concerned PARO may be invited to the deliberation of the application for land use conversion, exemption and exclusion.
3. The RCLUPPI shall handle the review, evaluation and processing of applications for land use conversion, exemption and exclusion involving five (5) hectares and below.
4. The Regional Director shall be the approving authority for applications for land use conversion, exemption and exclusion involving five (5) hectares and below.

- The RCLUPPI, through the Regional Director shall submit quarterly status reports of land use conversion and quarterly status reports of exemption and exclusion to the CLUPPI-1 Secretariat and CLUPPI-2 Secretariat, respectively, at the DAR Central Office.

IV. TRANSITORY PROVISIONS

The provisions of this AO referring to exemption and exclusion shall not take effect until and after the AO amending the existing AO on exemption and exclusion such as AO 6 (1994), AO 10 (1994), AO 13 (1990), AO 9 (1993), AO 3 (1995), MC 25 (1997), are promulgated.

In the meantime, the procedures under the existing AOs on exemption and exclusion shall continue to be enforced.

All existing applications shall continue to be processed under the AO in effect at the time the applications were filled.

V. REPEALING CLAUSE

This Administrative Order hereby amends/repeals Administrative Order No. 14, Series of 1994, Memorandum Circular No. 9, Series of 1997 and all other DAR Issuances inconsistent herewith.

VI. EFFECTIVITY

This order takes effect ten (10) days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of national circulation.

Dilliman, Quezon City, May 21, 2002.

HERNANI A. BRAGANZA
Secretary

May 27, 2002 – Inquirer

9 City jail . . .

From page a25

plained of difficulty in urinating, back pains, and high fever.

When his condition worsened, jail guard Longao Patricio brought him to the Jose R. Reyes Memorial Medical Center (JRRMMC), but Tipura was declared dead on arrival about 4:30 a.m. Saturday.

More than two hours later, Suyat, a robbery-holdup suspect, collapsed inside Brigada 10 of the MCJ, which is located along Quezon Boulevard. His case was being tried by Manila Regional Trial Court Judge Felixberto Olalia.

Suyat's fellow inmate Marcelo Villegas told Detective Ernesto Jose that they were cleaning their cell when Suyat suddenly fell unconscious.

Jail guards tried to revive Suyat in the jail infirmary and later brought him to JRRMMC but he, too, was declared dead on arrival.

Early yesterday morning, Rodeo, who had been jailed in November 1997 for murder, complained of pain in his swollen legs. He was also declared dead on arrival at JRRMMC, said Detective Paul Dennis Javier.

"A jail guard told me that (Rodeo's death) was the 25th since January this year," Javier added.

In the past three weeks, six other inmates died in the jail. Four of them complained of breathing difficulties, another had tuberculosis, while the sixth slipped and hit his head on the concrete floor, police said.

Investigators said the jail cells are too crowded and dirty and the ventilation system is poor.

Barangay heads . . .

From page A25

He said he would immediately sue barangay officials for "malfeasance" if the sewers in their areas have practically become garbage depots.

Abalos also urged the public not to support in the upcoming barangay election candidates who have failed to prevent the reckless disposal of garbage in their areas.

Pacino on acting: I feel I need to do it

NEW YORK—It sounds like Al Pacino: The voice is raspy, with all of its cadences and varying volume. It looks like Al Pacino, even though his spiky haircut is dyed blond. But Al Pacino says it isn't him.

He's not himself in interviews.

And in this regard, he maintains, he's like his character in the new movie "Insomnia"—an LAPD detective haunted by a lapse in judgment.

Pacino says: "I love what he says: 'There's things that you can feel when you're doing 'em: It's not just you.' Somebody else could get away with it. But if you do it . . . it's going to catch up to you. It doesn't fit. And I like the idea of this character doing something that he knew (was wrong) but he had some high moral reason for doing it, and he pays for it."

Without going into detail, Pacino says he's had the same experience, professionally and personally.

He's done things and thought, "I'm doing something that I'm either supposed to do or what's expected of me. But it's not me.' And it always gets me in trouble."

Or if it doesn't, he feels as though he got away with something.

"Like this interview, for instance. I hope! I hope!"

The intensely private actor may or may not be joking, adding: "As a friend of mine says, 'What anybody says about me is none of my business.'"

Gracious

Pacino, 62, typically avoids personal inquiries. (Never married, he has an adolescent daughter, and he and actress Beverly D'Angelo had twins in January 2001.)

But when it comes to talking about acting, great writing and his love for both, he's gracious and forthcoming.

So just when you think you're out, he pulls you back in.

Pacino says he took this latest role for two reasons: The movie was directed by Christopher Nolan, whom he admired for "his momentous 'Memento'," and he got to play someone with a good and bad side—and a conscience.

"I felt there was something there to act," he says.

Long before he became an eight-time Academy Award nominee, who won best actor for his bitter, blind retired Army colonel in 1992's "Scent of a Woman," Pacino worked as a mover, and thought that was the hardest job he ever had.

"But I think making movies tops that," he says now. "You really have to love what you're doing to do it.

"As a matter of fact, I more than enjoy it. I think I need to do it. I just think I need to do it . . . When I don't need to do it, I won't."

Always acting

Growing up in the Bronx with his mother and grandparents—his parents split when he was 2—little Alfredo was always acting.

"I didn't even know what I was doing. I just found that I was doing it," Pacino says, recalling that he mimicked Al Jolson records and re-enacted all the parts in the movies his mother brought him to.

And he kept doing it. Even though he grew up poor and had to quit the noted High School for the Performing Arts to work, he took acting classes and began to get theater parts.

In 1966, the Actors Studio accepted him; two years later, he won an Obie. He won the first of two Tonys in 1969, when he also made his screen debut in "Me, Natalie."

His first lead film role came in 1971's "The Panic in Needle Park"—a year before he exploded into the American pop-cult consciousness as Michael Corleone in "The Godfather," for which he received a supporting-actor Oscar nomination.

He got four more Oscar nods in the '70s—for "Serpico," "The Godfather: Part II," "Dog Day Afternoon" and ". . . And Justice for All."

While continuing to work on stage, he had no hit films during the '80s until 1989's "Sea of Love," costarring Ellen Barkin. Since then, he's starred in such movies as "Glengarry Glen Ross," "Heat" and "The Insider."

Little things

In "Insomnia," Pacino's Will Dormer is sent to Alaska to investigate a 17-year-old girl's murder. He can't sleep because it's always daylight. And both the lack of sleep and an Internal Affairs investigation back in Los Angeles start to catch up to, him.

The film costars two other Oscar winners, Robin Williams as the murder suspect and Hilary Swank as a policewoman who admires Dormer. He mentors his protégé by advising: "Small things, remember?"

That's the advice Pacino has followed throughout his career. His minimalist transformation from a heroic, clean-cut young soldier to a ruthless Mafia don helps make "The Godfather" one of the great movies.

"With just the slightest nuance —just a look or a small gesture— he conveys the most complex human struggle," says "Insomnia" director Nolan.

Great material

Since most of Pacino's movie roles have been darkly dramatic (his hammy turn in 1990's "Dick Tracy" being a notable exception), it's funny to hear him recall an early affinity for comedy. A couple things got in the way, however: "I didn't want to be funny on cue. I didn't know how to be funny on cue."

"Then I found a kind of solace and joy in playing in great material, and being involved in great writing, whether I was reading it or acting it, or being a part of it in some way. And I think that changed my life. And that was the luckiest thing that ever happened to me."

His next film will be the adaptation of the Pulitzer Prize-winning "Angels in America."

It's like musicians who get gratification from playing the great composers, he says. "The greater the material, the more interesting and fun and heartfelt is the experience."

Repeats

Improvisation is fine "if it works and hits the celluloid." But it rarely does, he thinks.

"To me when I see an improvised scene on screen, that's what it looks like."

Generally, nothing beats knowing the material, he says. "There is nothing like repeats, repeats, repeats until you finally find a way."

Just look at the sports world, he suggests. He's "stunned" by how little great athletes actually do on the field or on the court. But that's the thing: "the economy."

Actors similarly strive to "get to the point when we do a scene and take the acting out of it."

It's what familiarity with the material accomplishes.

"You can't be economic unless you know what you're doing," he says. "It's called 'being in the zone.'" **AP**

LITTLE BIG MAN. With just a look or a small gesture, Al Pacino can convey the most complex human struggle.

Anti-piracy in Cannes: 'America has lost the battle'

CANNES, France—Top representatives of the French and US movie industries used the Cannes Film Festival last week to urge a global alliance against the growing piracy of films on the Internet and on DVD.

Jack Valenti, the head of the Motion Picture Association of America, and Nicolas Seydoux, chief executive of France's Gaumont studio, warned that if tougher penalties were not systematically handed out to those illegally copying movies, production would be wiped out.

"It's the very survival of creativity that is at stake," Seydoux told a group of journalists and international movie executives.

Valenti said his predictions two decades ago that video recorders would leach profits from Hollywood had proved correct, calculating that more than $3.5 billion every year is now diverted into the pockets of pirates.

That is a major blow to the US movie industry, which derives nearly half its revenues from video releases, compared to a quarter from the theatrical showing of a picture.

The advent of digital technology, which produces master-perfect reproductions every time, "is the difference between lightning and a lightning bug,' he said.

Up to 700,000 films were being illegally downloaded from the Internet in the United States each day, he claimed.

Valenti was emphatic that ultra-tough laws that punished pirates more severely than muggers or other serious criminals were the only answer.

Such measures would make them resort to "bank-robbing or something else, because it's less risky" and lead them to realize that "for those who steal precious creative works, there is a price to pay for that thievery."

US university students in particular should be targeted, he said, explaining that they were at the forefront of "a new morality" that makes them think—erroneously in his view—that the Internet gives access to content for free.

Seydoux agreed, and said nobody in the movie industry wanted to go the way of their counterparts in the music sector, where file-sharing websites like Napster and its successors have gouged returns for labels.

"In terms of music, America has lost the battle, we have to be honest about that," he said. **AFP**

Manila filmfest stars to visit city districts

By Jerome Aning

MOVIE stars appearing in the Manila Film Festival's six official entries and their fans may get up close and personal in the pre-festival activities that start this week.

Fans may now get to mingle and have fun with their movie idols, unlike in previous festivals when they only get to see the stars from a distance.

The stars of each of the filmfest's six entries have "adopted" one of the city's six districts and will hold a "community day" there.

"We want this year's filmfest to be more mass-oriented," Mayor Lito Atienza said. "That is why we decided that each entry will go to one district, and the stars will get to spend a day with their fans in their 'adopted' districts."

On June 7, Sharon Cuneta and Judy Ann Santos of "Magkapatid" will visit the Fabella Hospital and hold a medical outreach program in District 3.

On the same day, Jeffrey Quizon, Mylene Dizon and other stars of "Utang ni Tatang" will hold a free concert at Plaza Noli in Sampaloc, and distribute gifts to fathers and grandfathers in the audience.

In District 5, a mass wedding will be held at the San Andres Sports Complex on June 9 to be followed by a mini-concert. "I Think I'm in Love" stars Joyce Jimenez and Piolo Pascual and Manila Councilor Alejandro "Kim" Atienza will stand as principal sponsors at the mass wedding.

On the same day, "Super B Saves the Day" star Ruffa Mae Quinto will host a quiz bee in District 6, followed by a mardi gras and costume parade.

City Hall will also hold its own Flores de Mayo in Malate featuring the stars of the six film entries.

The producers of the entries will receive their incentives of P1 million each on June 4 during simple rites at the Bulwagang Antonio Villegas.

A motorcade with the stars will tour the city on June 10, while the film entries will have their simultaneous premiere night at the Robinson's Place and SM Manila the next day.

The six films will be shown in Manila theaters starting June 12. The awards night will be on June 22.

SHOWS

Rico J. Puno returns to Siete Pecados

RICO J. Puno will return to Siete Pecados at Westin Philippine Plaza, where he spent many memorable years as a top entertainer.

It was at Siete Pecados where Rico wowed the crowd with hits like "Kapalaran," "May Bukas Pa" and an unforgettable version of Barbra Streisand's "The Way We Were."

Rico J. performs anew at Siete Pecados on Thursday, May 30, for a show dubbed "Celebrity Nights @ Siete Pecados."

The show is mounted by RRCM Company and M-1 Entertainment for Westin Philippine Plaza. Sponsors are City Lite 88.3 and Joey 92.3.

Tickets are at P500. For details, call 551-5555 or 534-3527.

For the rest of the month at Siete Pecados, the Rey Martinez band delivers high-energy music. Also featured are Part E/Arpie and the Multivitamin on Mondays, Kislev and Hyperbeat on Tuesdays, Spendrift and Arpie and the Multivitamin on Wednesdays, Kislev and Illustra on Thursdays, Adlib St. and Music Making Company on Fridays and Arpie and the Multivitamin and Jam Zone on Saturdays.

Captain's Bar

ANOTHER brilliant artist returns to the Captain's Bar of the Mandarin Oriental when "Crossover Presents Another Look at Jaya," June 6 at 8 p.m.

This will be Jaya's second time to perform for 105.1 Crossover's monthly concert series. Included in her line-up are some favorite Crossover classics, ballads, jazz and R&B tunes that only Jaya can effortlessly deliver.

Da Capo starts the evening with soothing instrumental music at 8 p.m. Other performers are vocal group The Opera and comedienne Nanette Inventor, who will lighten up the evening with her wit and charm.

Performing with Jaya are "Crossover Presents" resident musicians—Mel Villena on saxophone, Bobby Taylo on bass, Cesar Aguas on guitar, Roy Mercado on drums and Gerard Salonga as musical director.

For ticket inquiries, call Captain's Bar of Mandarin Oriental at 750-8888 or Ticket World at 891-5610.

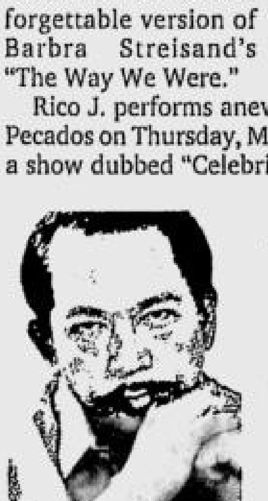
'Anton Rules'

FIRST it was "Anton Reigns." Now, Anton, the singer-comedian who made a name for himself by aping Regine Velasquez, celebrates his birthday with a concert, "Anton Rules," June 14 at the Music Museum.

The show marks the third time that Anton is celebrating his birthday with a concert. Sharing the stage with him are Lani Misalucha and platinum hitmaker Aiza Seguerra.

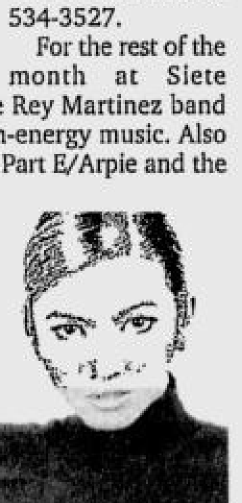
Anton will also be joined by the Opus Band, Solid Gold Dancers, Ate Gay and the Akafellows with whom he will do such tunes as "Can't Take My Eyes Off You" and "Whenever You Call."

For ticket reservations, call Music Museum at 721-0635 or 0917-384-2647



PUNO

JAYA



ANTON

Q & A band to take on the NBC Tent

By Fred Samantela
Contributor

THE 12-MEMBER new band Q & A is bigger—in number—than established bands like Mulatto, Parliament Syndicate and Channels.

The three older bands have been successful in playing '70s retro (Mulatto), acid jazz (Parliament) and funk/jazz (Channels). The members of Q & A describe their music as '60s to '70s retro, and this explains why the new band is getting hot fast. Its kind of music appeals to baby boomers, which make up most of the paying crowd and which fill bars and hotel music lounges. Which are the also the venues of this new band.

I watched Q & A at Chef and Brewer, where the bar's acoustics are great and the food is interesting. But even if they played in a bar with bad acoustics, the band's sheer number ought to make it sound full and good, at the very least.

The band's repertoire is well picked, neat and deceiving. Its pace is frenetic and it leaves no room for requests. The spiels are few and they don't include too many greetings in their spiels in between songs. But they've got the audience in the palm of their hands. Although there was no alternate band that night, the place was packed.

Aside from their good looks, the band members are articulate and driven by passion for their music.

The most interesting members of Q & A are in the blowing section, preppies led by Francis de Leon, one of two former UP Jazz ensemble members in the group. Francis was last with the Soul Republic and has played on David Pomeranz's recordings and in the Manila concerts of Patti Austin, Mike Francis, Fra Lippo Lippi, Jaya and Martin Nievera. He has been doing this for the past six years and plans to stop only when he has saved enough money to go into business.

Q & A has five vocalists who are capable of big vocal arrangements, and who are, vocally, good and engaging. One member says he thinks no other band has a set-up like theirs. I think so, too.

The band's edge lies in its sound, in the musical arrangements and in the obvious fun with which they perform.

They're thrilled that there are venues like Brewer that allow them to play their music.

The members of Q & A said their pay is divided equally by 12. Very democratic. This says a lot about the band. All or nothing. No compromises.

They said details about their album are hush-hush still. But they've launched the album last January and sung the songs at the launch in Virgin Café.

Even without a hit song or an album yet, Q & A will be performing in their first major concert at the NBC Tent in Fort Bonifacio on May 30.

Their guests are Leah Navarro, the Vicor Dancers, Hotdog, VST & Co. and The Boyfriends. No frills, just pure fun and '60s retro.

SM CINEMA

SM Dial-A-Movie Tel. 633-9999

NOW SHOWING

SM CITY BACOOR
4173869

1	BENEATH LOCHNESS
2	JASON-X
3	SPIDERMAN
4	STAR WARS
5	STAR WARS
6	AKALA MO
7	LIGAYA, PANTASYA...
8	DEATH TO SMOOCHY

SM CENTERPOINT
7149522 -7161416

1	AKALAMO
2	JASON X
3	STAR WARS
4	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
5	SPIDERMAN
6	LIGAYA, PANTASYA...
7	STAR WARS
8	STAR WARS
9	BENEATH LOCHNESS
10	VIDEOKE KING

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
9350749

1	JASON-X
2	LIGAYA, PANTASYA...
3	BENEATH LOCHNESS
4	SPIDERMAN
5	STAR WARS
6	AKALA MO
7	STAR WARS
8	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
9	AKALA MO
10	FRUIT IS SWELLING
11	VIDEOKE KING
12	SPIDERMAN

SM CITY MANILA
5239240

1	SPIDERMAN
2	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
3	IN THE BEDROOM
4	STAR WARS
5	BENEATH LOCHNESS
6	STAR WARS
7	LIGAYA, PANTASYA...
8	SPIDERMAN
9	AKALA MO
10	STAR WARS
11	JASON - X
12	FRUIT IS SWELLING

SM MEGAMALL
6331901 • 6329401

1	STAR WARS
2	BENEATH LOCHNESS
3	SPIDERMAN
4	STAR WARS
5	IN THE BEDROOM
6	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
7	LIGAYA, PANTASYA...
8	SPIDERMAN
9	AKALA MO
10	STAR WARS
11	VIDEOKE KING
12	SPIDERMAN

SM CITY NORTH EDSA
9295452

1	IN THE BEDROOM
2	STAR WARS
3	LIGAYA, PANTASYA...
4	AKALA MO
5	BENEATH LOCHNESS
6	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
7	STAR WARS
8	SPIDERMAN
9	CLOSED
10	CLOSED
11	CLOSED
12	CLOSED

SM SOUTHMALL
8066868

1	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
2	BENEATH LOCHNESS
3	STAR WARS
4	IN THE BEDROOM
5	FRUIT IS SWELLING
6	VIDEOKEKING
7	AKALA MO
8	STAR WARS
9	SPIDERMAN
10	LIGAYA, PANTASYA...

SM CITY CEBU
2313876

1	STAR WARS
2	RETURN TO NEVERLAND
3	SEVEN DAYS TO LIVE
4	SPIDERMAN
5	AKALA MO
6	SANA TOTOO NA
7	SPIDERMAN
8	STAR WARS

SM CITY ILOILO
3209422

1	7 DAYS TO LIVE
2	CLOSED
3	SPIDERMAN
4	SNOW DOGS
5	AKALA MO
6	STAR WARS
7	CLOSED
8	K - PAX

SM CITY PAMPANGA
7128015

1	STAR WARS
2	STAR WARS
3	K-PAX
4	SPIDERMAN
5	JASON-X
6	AKALA MO

SM SUPER CTR. SUCAT
8294975

1	SPIDERMAN
2	STAR WARS
3	AKALA MO
4	LIGAYA, PANTASYA...

SM CINEMA GUADALUPE
8820984

1	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
2	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
3	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

SM CINEMA TUTUBAN
2514302

1	STAR WARS
2	LIGAYA, PANTASYA...
3	AKALA MO
4	SPIDERMAN

SM CITY DAVAO
2976998

1	STAR WARS
2	AKALA MO
3	DEVILS MASH
4	SPIDERMAN
5	K-PAX
6	RETURN TO NEVERLAND

SM BICUTAN

1
2
3
4

SOON TO OPEN!
4 NEW
STATE-OF-THE-ART
VISION & SOUND

SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO

1
2
3
4

SOON TO OPEN!
4 NEW
STATE-OF-THE-ART
VISION & SOUND

THE PODIUM

12 ADB Avenue Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City

1	STAR WARS: EPISODE 2
2	IN THE BEDROOM

W/ LATE NIGHT SCREENING ON WEEKENDS -6369781-85

Movies are subject to change without prior notice

For screening times, call 729-7777.
Schedules are subject to change without prior notice.

AYALA CINEMAS NOW SHOWING

G1 GLORIETTA 1	G4 GLORIETTA 4	GB1 GREENBELT 1	GB3 GREENBELT 3	ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER
1 SPIDERMAN	1 STAR WARS: EPISODE 2	1 SPIDERMAN	SPIDERMAN 10:50/1:20/3:50/6:20/ 8:50/11:20	1 STAR WARS: EPISODE 2
2 STAR WARS: EPISODE 2	2 IN THE BEDROOM	2 STAR WARS/ PANIC ROOM	STAR WARS: EPISODE 2 12:40,3:30,6:20, 9:10,12:00MN	2 STAR WARS: EPISODE 2
3 AKALA MO	3 STAR WARS: EPISODE 2 12:40,/3:30	3 HARD BALL	3 SOON TO OPEN	3 SPIDERMAN
4 STAR WARS: EPISODE 2	4 K-PAX	MARTIN NIEVERA BACK ONSTAGE 9:00 P.M.-May 31/ June 1	4 SOON TO OPEN	4 DEATH SMOOCHY
	5 DEATH TO SMOOCHY		5 SOON TO OPEN	5 IN THE BEDROOM
	6 STAR WARS: EPISODE 2			
	7 SPIDERMAN			

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION
MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING
EMAIL: mmta@asia.com

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72

1 (DDS)	STAR WARS
2 (SDDS)	SPIDERMAN
3 (DTS)	STAR WARS
4 GOLD (DTS)	STAR WARS
5 GOLD (DOLBY)	DEATH OF SMOOCHY
6 GOLD (SDDS)	SPIDERMAN
7 GOLD (DOLBY)	IN THE BEDROOM
8	AKALA MO
9	AKALA MO
10	BENEATH LOCHNESS

Pearl Plaza Cinemas
(Parañaque) tel. 853.4486

1	
2	
3 (DTS)	STAR WARS
4	
5	
6 (DTS)	
Golden Pearl THX	

Masagana CINEMA
(Pasay) tel 833.3274

1	AKALA MO
2	STAR WARS
3	LIGAYA, PANTASYA NG BAYAN

st★rmall Movies
(Shaw Blvd.) tel 724.4986

1	SPIDERMAN
2	AKALA MO
3	BENEATH LOCHNESS
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	STAR WARS
5	LIGAYA, PANTASYA...

METROPOLIS st★r
tel 850.4285

1	SPIDERMAN
2	LIGAYA, PANTASYA...
3	AKALA MO
4	STAR WARS
5	SANA TOTOO NA
6	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
7	
8	

PREMIERE CINEMA THX
(Makati City) TEL. 751-2010 TO 13

1	STAR WARS

Center Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

1	HARTS WARS
2	SPIDERMAN

FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL, INC
tel 930.9515

1	
2	
3	

Spring
(Libertad, Pasay City) tel 831.7864

1	LIGAYA, PANTASYA NG BAYAN
A	RESERVE

Sunshine
(FTI, Taguig) tel 838.4301 loc. 3376

1	AKALA MO
2	STAR WARS
3	LIGAYA, PANTASYA NG BAYAN
4	

GOTESCO CINEMA

Gotesco City
(Manila) tel 734.8588

1 (DOLBY)	AKALA MO
2	
3	
4	FRUIT IA SWELLING
5	BENEATH LOCHNESS
6	LIGAYA, PANTASYA..
7 (DTS)	STAR WARS
8 (SDDS)	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
9 (DOLBY)	SPIDERMAN

Gotesco Caloocan
tel 362.3508

2	AKALA MO

Gotesco Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 364.3781

1	AKALA MO
2	AKALA MO
3	BENEATH LOCHNESS
4 (SDDS)	STAR WARS
5	LIGAYA, PANTASTA...
6 (DOLBY)	SPIDERMAN
7 (DTS)	STAR WARS
8	FRUIT IS SWELLING
9	VIDEOKE KING

Gotesco Commonwealth
tel 951.0083

1 (DTS)	
2	
3	
4	BENEATH LOCHNESS
5 (SDDS)	SPIDERMAN
6	STAR WARS
7 (DOLBY)	AKALA MO
8	LIGAYA, PANTASTA...

Gotesco Ortigas
tel 656.6795

1	LIGAYA, PANTASTA...
2	BENEATH LOCHNESS
3 (DTS)	SPIDERMAN
4	AKALA MO
5 (SDDS)	STAR WARS

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470

1	AKALA MO

Sampaguita
(Cubao) tel 911.7888

1	AKALA MO

Dilson
(Manila) tel 734.7724

Dilson	LIGAYA, PANTASTA...
Lords	LIGAYA, PANTASTA...
Jennet	

MARKETPLACE
Mandaluyong tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

1	AKALA MO
2	STAR WARS
3	FRUIT IS SWELLING

Prima
(Pasig) tel 641.1215

3	

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
SUPER CINERAMA
tel 733.4238

1 (DOLBY)	STAR WARS
2	
3	
4	AKALA MO
5	LIGAYA, PANTASTA..

New Divisoria Mall
DIVISORIA CINEMA
tel 244.4619

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	

FRC Cinema
Talaba Bacoor Cavite

1	
2	

Berma
tel 879.2029

1	AKALA MO
2	STAR WARS

CitiMall
(Parañaque) tel 820.7269

1	
2	

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna)
tel (049) 534.2185 / 534.2198

1	SPIDERMAN
2	AKALA MO
3 (DTS)	STAR WARS

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1	SPIDERMAN
2 (DTS)	AKALA MO
3 (DOLBY)	STAR WARS
4	K-PAX

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146

1	SPIDERMAN
2 (DOLBY)	K-PAX
3 (DTS)	STAR WARS
4	AKALA MO

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1	SPIDERMAN
2	AKALA MO
3	SOON TO OPEN
4	SOON TO OPEN

Cinema 2000 MetroTown
(Tarlac) tel(045) 982.1729

1	AKALA MO
2	SPIDERMAN
3 (DOLBY)	DEEP END
4 (DTS)	STAR WARS

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 (SDDS)	STAR WARS
2	FRUIT IS SWELLING
3	SANA TOTOO NA
4 (DTS)	AKALA MO

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 (DOLBY)	STAR WARS
2	K-PAX
3 (DTS)	SPIDERMAN
4	SANA TOTO NA
5	AKAL MO

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883

1	STAR WARS
2	AKALA MO
3	SANA TOTOO NA

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 249-2558

1	STAR WARS
2	AKALA MO
3	SPIDERMAN

Olivarez Tagaytay
tel (046) 413.0311

1	JASON-X
2	PUKYUTAN
3	ROLLER BALL

Morales Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.9736

1	
2	
3	

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808

1 (DTS)	
2 (DTS)	STAR WARS

Fourstep
(Cavite) tel (046) 416.2385

1	

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657

1	SANA TOTOO NA
2	AKALA MO
3	SPIDERMAN

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1	K PAX
2	SPIDERMAN
3	STAR WARS
4	SANA TOTOO NA

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03

1 (DOLBY EX)	SPIDERMAN
2	AKALA MO
3 (DTS)	STAR WARS
4	K-PAX

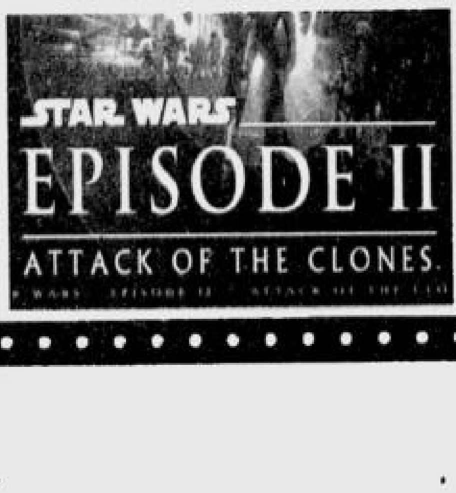
*Movies are subject to change without prior notice

ADVANCED SCREENING THX DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS

THX
CMG INTERNATIONAL

PREMIERE CINEMA

NOW SHOWING



MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS
@ Robinsons Malls

NOW SHOWING

Galleria
632- 9115- 16
633- 7641 loc. 279

1 THX	STAR WARS 2
2	STAR WARS 2
3	STAR WARS 2
4	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
5	AKALA MO
6	STAR WARS 2
7	SPIDERMAN
8	IN THE BEDROOM
9	SPIDERMAN
10	BENEATH LOCHNESS

Ermita
536 -7809- 12

1	STAR WARS 2
2	SPIDERMAN
3	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
4	BENEATH LOCHNESS
5	AKALA MO
6	IN THE BEDROOM
7	STAR WARS 2

Metro East -
Marcos hway 682- 8193 / 8280

1	SPIDERMAN
2	STAR WARS 2
3	STAR WARS 2
4	BENEATH LOCHNESS
5	SPIDERMAN
6	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
7	STAR WARS 2
8	AKALA MO

Novaliches
935- 3229 - 30

1	STAR WARS 2
2	STAR WARS 2
3	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
4	AKALA MO
5	SPIDERMAN
6	AKALA MO
7	SPIDERMAN
8	DEATH TO SMOOCHY

Imus
471- 8188 / 875- 3838

1	SPIDERMAN
2	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
3	BENEATH LOCHNESS
4	AKALA MO
5	STAR WARS 2
6	STAR WARS 2

Bacolod
441- 0453 / 0459

1	SNOW DOGS
2	STAR WARS 2
3	AKALA MO
4	DEEP END
5	SPIDERMAN
6	DEVIL MAN

Iloilo
336- 8077 - 78

1	STAR WARS 2
2	SNOW DOGS
3	AKALA MO
4	DEEP END
5	SEVEN DAYS TO LIVE
6	SPIDERMAN

Star Mills-
Sn Fernando, Pamp 875- 1927
961-5318 / 5270

1	K-PAX
2	STAR WARS 2
3	SPIDERMAN
4	AKALA MO
5	JASON X
6	STAR WARS 2

malabon citisquare-
soon to open.

Late Night Screening

STAR WARS
EPISODE II
on
May 24 & 25, 2002
Friday & Saturday -
11:00 p.m. @
Robinsons
Movieworld
Galleria

how-2-reach-us:

email: htc@netasia-mnl.net
http://www.robinsonsmovieworld.com
call-a-movie 536- 7812

MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

Regine to wax unreleased Legrand-Streisand songs

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Leah Salterio

REGINE Velasquez is back from her brief but memorable trip to Paris, where she met with pianist-composer **Michel Legrand** to discuss the album of Legrand songs that she will record in Manila in July.

Regine will sing a total of 15 songs in the album, to be produced by Maxi-Media International as the initial offering of its Maxi-Records. The lineup will include some Legrand standards like "On My Way To You" and "Something New in My Life," plus new songs with lyrics written by the multi-awarded team of **Alan** and **Marilyn Bergman**, the duo responsible for many of **Barbra Streisand**'s most memorable tunes, including the Oscar-winning "Yentl."

There will also be two new songs previously recorded by Streisand but never commercially released—"Blue, Green, Gray and Gone" and "Once You Loved."

LEGRAND'S NEW ARTIST. Regine Velasquez and Legrand in Paris.

The deal was sealed as early as February when Legrand performed in a two-night Valentine show in Manila.

Regine didn't mind auditioning before Legrand, who was promptly impressed. Early this month, Legrand flew to Paris from Sweden, where he is now based, because it is in the French capital where the famous composer has his library of songs. Regine went to Legrand's sprawling residence in the outskirts of Paris, a two-hour drive from the Baltimore Hotel where she and her entourage stayed.

Regine was accompanied by her album producers, Maxi-Media International executives **Felix Co, Jeffrey Cal, Maryann Gomez** and **Rico Mortel.** She was also with her dad, *Mang* **Gerry** and manager **Patty Mayoralgo**.

While in Paris, Regine also did a pictorial for her album cover and publicity stills. While the rest of her entourage took a side trip to Lourdes in the south of France for a one-day pilgrimage, Regine had to return to Manila to fulfill her other commitments. She has a two-night concert at the Music Museum on June 8 and 15.

Maxi-Media has allotted a P15 million budget for the album, which they also hope to distribute in the international market. After the launch in Manila in October, the album will also be distributed in the Asian market, US, Canada and Europe.

To break even, the producers hope to achieve double platinum status (80,000 copies sold).

Legrand will return to Manila in July to record all 15 songs with Regine and a Filipino orchestra. Foreign session musicians will work on the album, according to Patty Mayoralgo.

The album will be distributed locally by Viva Records, Regine's recording label.

Legrand and Regine might also go on an Asian performance tour, according to a source from Maxi-Media International. We hope the outfit will also produce a major concert with Legrand and Regine to boost the album promo.

Media friends network

AT THE necrological rites for Philippine Star lifestyle writer **Eric Catipon** last Wednesday night, *Tita* **Llita Logarta** suggested that media people form a network of friends who may be available to spend time with friends in need.

Before his death, Eric was confined in the intensive care unit of the Philippine Heart Center with only his brother, **Eugene,** looking after him.

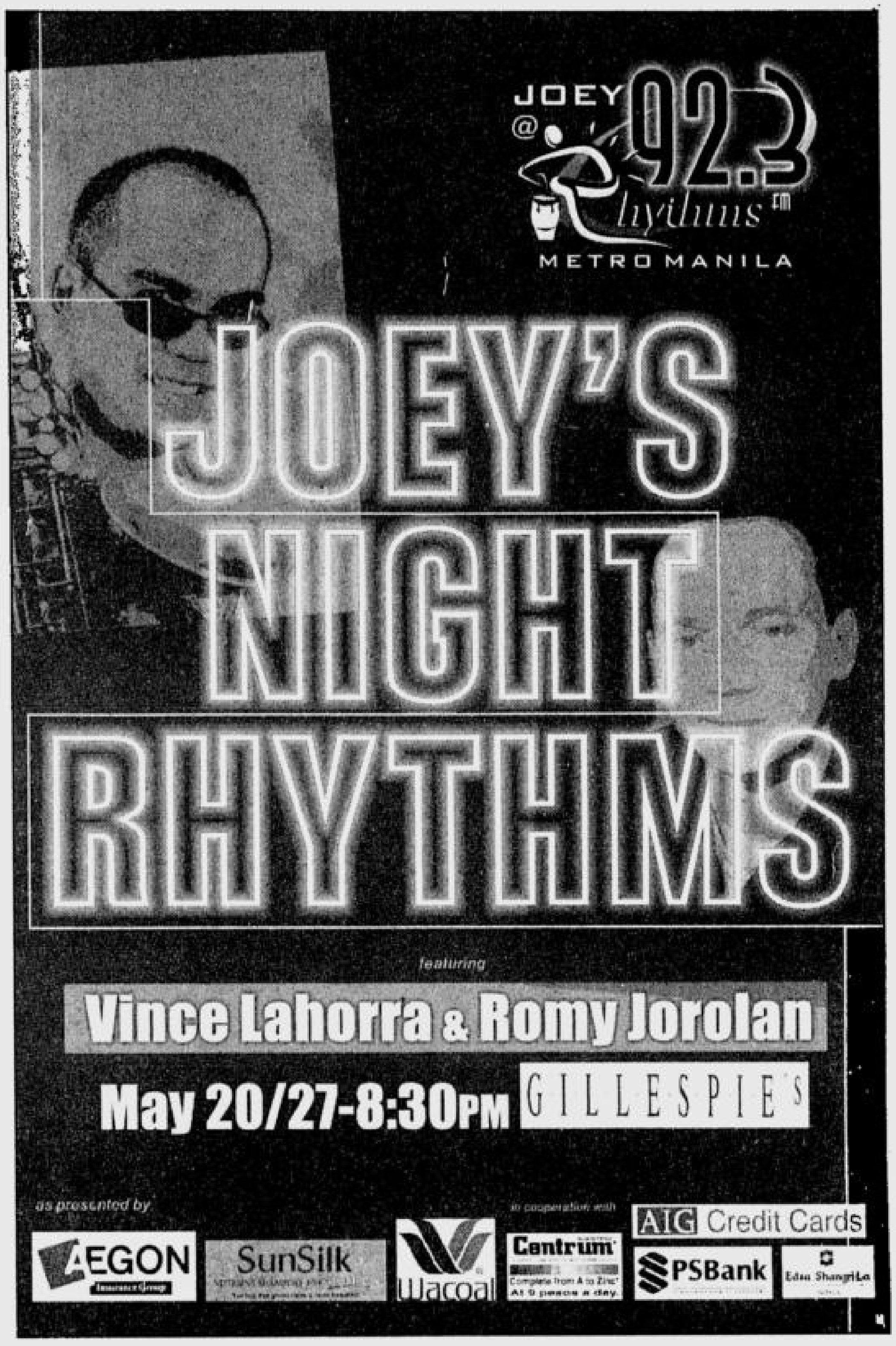
Eugene was alone, with little funds, no food and totally sleepless. He could not even leave the hospital, since no one else could stay with Eric. Their sister **Eloisa** lives in the United States.

Tita Llita and PR lady **Jing-Jing Romero** were with Eric in the ICU when he passed away at 10:04 a.m. last May 16. Eugene had gone out to get some money and by the time he returned, Eric was gone.

In her account read by **Joseph Cortez,** Eric's fellow Philippine Star writer who hosted the tribute, *Tita* Llita said: "It's so sad and so overwhelming to be all alone in a hospital. Eric was facing the greatest battle of his life while Eugene was devastated at the prospect of losing his only brother. The presence of a friend in such a situation transcends any monetary value.

"After all is said and done, the only real

REGINE/A30



COLUMBIA PICTURES
JOEY @ 92.3 Rhythms FM
METRO MANILA

invite you to the advance screening of

PANIC ROOM

MAY 27 - MONDAY - 7:30PM
GLORIETTA 4 - CINEMA 6

as sponsored by

1•908•1 722722
Rustan SUPERMARKETS
PLDT FORTUNE HOTLINE 1•908• 1•333•888 P10/min
KitKat
Bromhexine Bisolvon
Cravings
SUSTAGEN PREMIUM
SMART Simply Amazing!
ST LIFE
TAMBULI RESORTS

in cooperation with

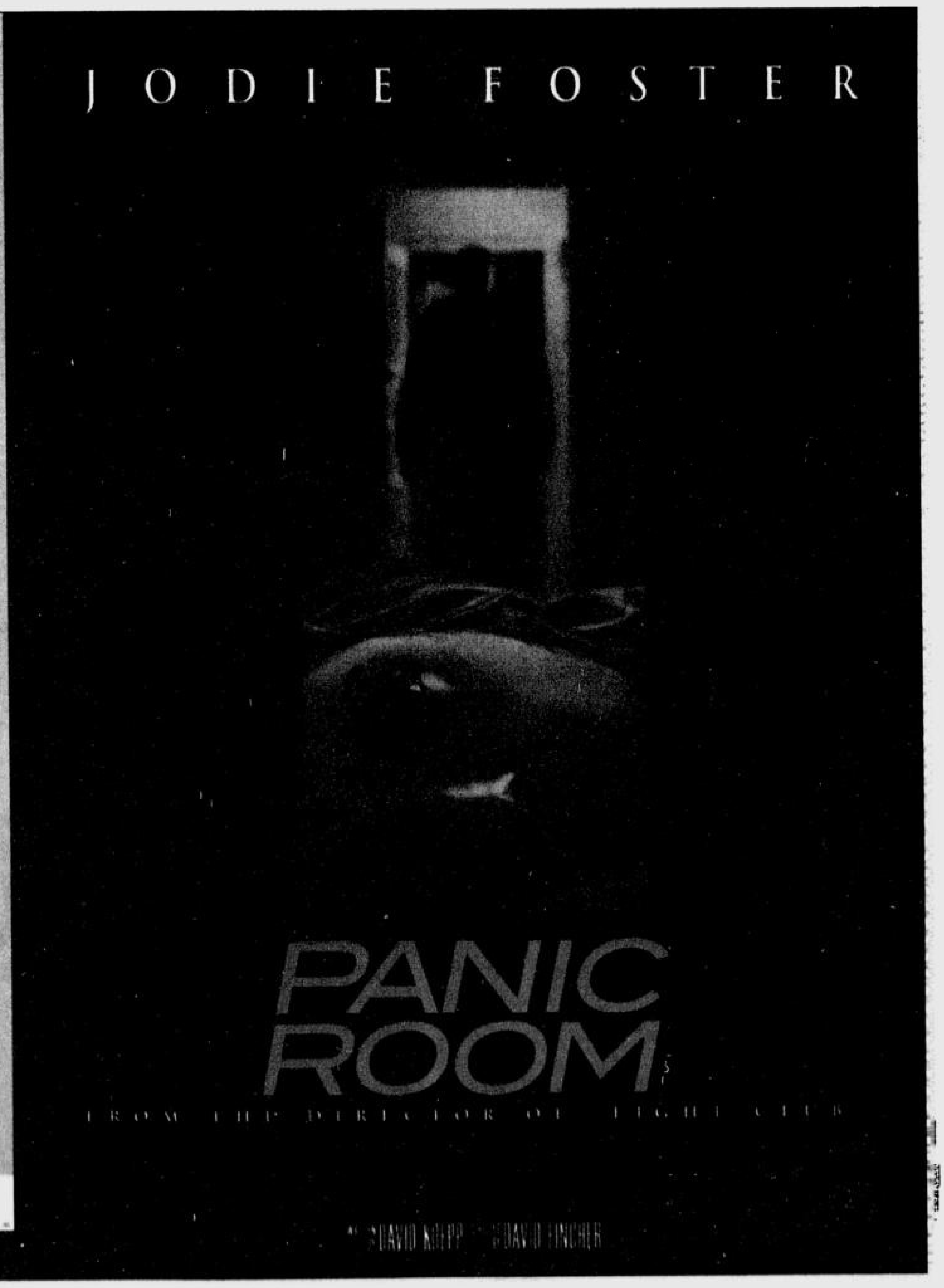
NIDO
Attapulgite Polymagma* The anti-diarrheal.
LG Life's Good!
Fitness First
DSMI Digital Security Management, Inc.
SENTRY

also brought to you by

imarflex
PSBank

MTRCB R

REGULAR SHOWING ON MAY 29



Spielberg directs Cruise

VIEWFINDE

Nestor U. Torre

WHENEVER **Steven Spielberg** makes a film, it's big news. Ditto for **Tom Cruise**, whose starrers are eagerly awaited by viewers all over the world. Thus, the new film "Minority Report" is a double treat and twice as eventful, because it marks the first time that Cruise has been directed by Spielberg.

In the futuristic film, Cruise plays a cop who works in a completely new crimebusting system that arrests and convicts criminals *before* they even commit a crime!

That's a really far-out and fascinating plot premise, which must be why Spielberg and Cruise chose to film this script over the hundreds that they are offered to do each year.

Credit for the innovative plot goes to **Phillip K. Dick**, who wrote both "Blade Runner" and "Total Recall."

How does the new crimebusting system work? It makes use of "psychic technology" that enables the police to anticipate a criminal impulse, and to provide details of the crime, even before it's been committed.

To further thicken the plot, Cruise's character heads the "Precrime" Department, but himself gets accused of murdering a man he hasn't even met!

The plot twists are so confounding that the script (by **Ronald Shusett** and **Dan O'Bannon**) had to be revised several times. Cruise first got interested in the project years ago, and shooting was supposed to start in 1999, but the schedule had to be pushed back for years to further improve on the "tricky" script.

Only after the script had been finely tuned did Cruise tap Spielberg to direct the film. They'd been friends for years, but this was the first time they would be working together, so it was important that everything meshed.

Other changes stressed the personal element over the sci-fi nature of the story. It was true that the film took place in 2080 AD, but it would be seen by today's viewers, so they had to be able to relate to the characters as people, not as automatons.

In this regard, Cruise solicited the help of script doctors like **Rob Cohen** and **Scott Frank**. Spielberg also consulted scientists and novelists to help create the details of the future's "media-saturated" society, where people drive magnetic cars and live for more than 100 years!

"Minority Report" took so long to complete that it lost **Matt Damon**, who had been tapped to play a major role but had to bow out to fulfill another commitment. He's been replaced by **Colin Farrell**.

Finally, Spielberg reveals that he'd offered Cruise roles in his films five times before. This is the first time Cruise has asked him to direct a Gproduction, but he said yes right away. So, he concludes, Cruise "owes" him, and has to star in four more Spielberg films after this!

Well, if "Minority Report" turns out to be a big hit, Cruise won't take much convincing to do exactly that.

National Geographic Channel

INFORMATIVE shows on the National Geographic Channel include: on "Going to Extreme," Monday to Thursday at 9 p.m., June 3, "Cold"—Venture to Siberia during one of the worst winters in decades, and discover how cold the planet can be. Host **Nick Middleton** goes in search of the deep freeze, from plunging into ice-cold water to spending a winter night camping.

June 4, "Hot"—How hot is hot? With an average yearly temperature of 34 degrees Celsius, Dallol, Ethiopia is the hottest place on earth. As the mercury rises to over 40 degrees, Middleton heats things up by visiting Dallol during the hottest time of the year.

Locals call the place "the hell hole of creation," and Nick agrees with them after meeting miners who work through the heat to dig rocks of salt from the earth.

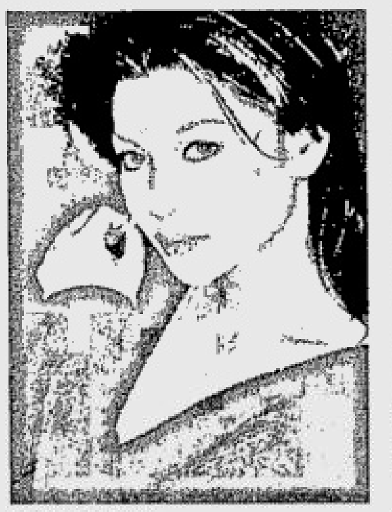
June 5, "Dry"—Meet people who harvest fog for water. Middleton travels to the town of Arica, Chile, which receives only about 0.04 inches of rain each year! Not satisfied with the dryness of Africa, he goes to the Atacama Desert to find a place even drier than Arica.

June 6, "Wet"—Travel to Mawysnarm, India, declared the wettest place in the world in 1994. Here, an average of 12 meters of rain fall each year. On some days, this extreme location has more rain in a single day than London has in one year!

PROMO TOUR

Linkin Park member Joe Hahn (extreme right) will visit the country for a two-day promo tour of the group's album which achieved quadruple platinum status in the Philippines. On May 28, Hahn will appear on GMA 7's top-rating noontime show, "Eat Bulaga." Then he will proceed to Campus Radio dwLS-FM 97.1, NU 107, Monster Radio RX 93.1 and Magic 89.9 for a string of radio interviews. Highlight of his visit is the much-waited autograph signing on May 28 at the O Music and Video Store, 3rd level of Rockwell's Power Plant Mall, 6 to 8 p.m. Hahn will sign copies of Linkin Park's "Hybrid Theory" special edition and VCDs and DVDs of "Linkin Park Party at the Pancake Festival," all exclusively available at O Music and Video.

Artists headline foundation day show



MISALUCHA

LANI Misalucha, Jinky Llamanzares, Pinky Marquez, Rivermaya and folk-rock group Asin perform in a mini-concert at 7:30 a.m. today at the Makati City Hall Quadrangle, as part of the weeklong celebration for "Araw ng Makati."

Asin will also sing their original composition, "Paglingkuran ng Bayan," commissioned by Makati City.

The mini-concert will highlight the "Parangal sa Bayan" awards to mark Makati's 332nd foundation day.

A Holy Mass will kick off today's activities, which will also include the release of 332 balloons, symbolic of Makati's progressive years.

Makati City Mayor Jejomar Binay will deliver a short speech during the awards ceremony which will honor outstanding members of Mapsa, Rotary Club of San Lorenzo.

On May 30, reggae bands Ariba and Brownman Revival will be the guests in a street party, "Sarap to Sundown," along Kalayaan Avenue near Rockwell from 5 p.m. onwards.

On May 31, Moonstar 88, Cheese and The Youth will perform at the Ampitheater of the Makati Park and Garden starting 6 p.m.

At the same time, a street party and fashion show will be held along Jupiter St., featuring Toy Symphony, Brownbeat All Star, Sabor Latino, Parliament Syndicate and True Faith.

Another show is set at 5 p.m. at the Glorietta Activity Area, starring Ogie Alcasid and Tribe of Levi.

A 25-hour . . .

From page A31

Jinggoy reacted very badly to the procedure being done to him. He foamed at the mouth, started convulsing, and his extremities turned greyish purple. Precy said she really freaked out when she saw that all of Jinggoy's fingernails had already turned bluish-black. She was sure that this was his end.

Jinggoy said he truly feels that he's been given a second life. He joked that if he ever got out, I would have to let him play on "Game KNB" and I would have to make sure he would the jackpot because he wanted to donate the money to a foundation, or maybe to Cardinal Sin's charitable projects.

Jinggoy and former President Erap have been confined for more than a year now. Some would say that they are living in luxurious surroundings. But regardless of where you are, imprisonment is still the worst fate imaginable. For somebody who led a life as active and on-the-go as Jinggoy, it must be the ultimate punishment to be cooped up. As San Juan mayor for three consecutive terms, he had a hectic schedule, a constant stream of visitors and non-stop meetings and projects.

It's also a very difficult and abnormal situation for Precy and her kids, Janella, **Jolo**, and **Julian**. I witnessed how much Jinggoy truly dotes on his kids and how openly affectionate and playful they are with each other. The consolation for their family life is that they've truly bonded, and Jinggoy and Precy have a very solid, supportive, and tested-through-the-fire marriage.

With what the Estradas are going through, they will know definitely and unequivocally who their friends are. Jinggoy said he couldn't ask for more from a friend than the time and the constant presence that **Rudy Fernandez** had unselfishly been giving him in the past year. He said **Ronnie Ricketts** also made the effort to visit regularly to help him work out.

I mentioned some people I assumed would be frequent visitors and I was surprised to hear him say that they hadn't visited him yet. It was touching for me that Jinggoy seemed to really appreciate my brief visit. He brought me to the elevator and waited until we were inside before he went back into his room.

Regine . . .

From page A29

thing that we can give each other as human beings is love and friendship."

She suggested that writers form a foundation that can be called Media Friends Helping Friends Network. They can set up a secretariat to find out who needs help and to sign up members.

"All we need to give is time," she said. "If there is also money to donate, well and good. But time—spelled out as love and friendship—is all that is required of us."

You can e-mail suggestions to litalogarta@hotmail.com, text *Tita* Llita at 0917-8971989 or call her at 920-1526.

Speakers in the tribute to Eric recalled funny and touching anecdotes about him. They included "Saksi" anchor **Mike Enriquez** who is Eric's first cousin, Prof. **Jack Pilar** of the University of the Philippines who was Eric's friend for more than 20 years, **Meloy Lazaro** who was Eric's former editor at Manila Times, **Sammy San Miguel**, another friend who helped bring Eric to the hospital.

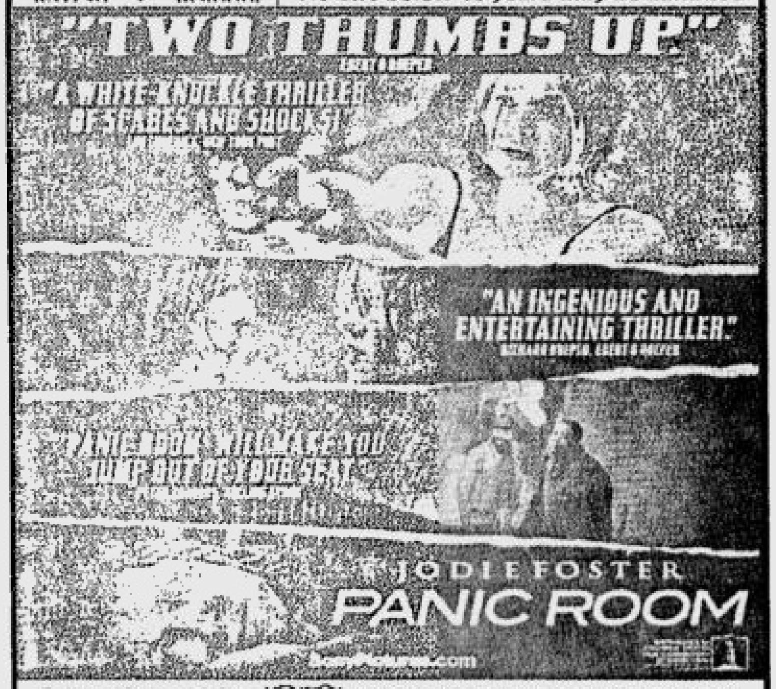
R-18 rating

"KILABOT at Kembot," the action-romance starring **Bong Revilla Jr.** and **Assunta de Rossi**, was given an R-18 rating without cuts by the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board (MTRCB).

The film, directed by **Augusto "Ogie" Salvador**, will have a sneak preview in all SM Cinemas tomorrow, May 28, 7 to 9 p.m. Regular theater run is on May 29.

THEATRE MALL
GREENHILLS
a landmark reinvented!
NOW SHOWING
CINEMA 1 STAR WARS: Episode 2
11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00
GP
CINEMA 2 STAR WARS: Episode 2
12:00, 2:45, 5:30, 8:16, 11:00
GP
All Reserved Seating: P120.00
TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.
GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA
MUSIC MUSEUM
MAY 31, 2002 RETROSPECT 9:00 PM
FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION, PLS. CALL: 721-6726 OR 721-0635

From the star of
SILENCE OF THE LAMBS
And the Director of SEVEN . . . . . .
SHOCKING THRILLER OPENS MAY 29!
MTRCB RATING R Restricted | Strictly for ADULTS
No one below 18 years may be admitted



"TWO THUMBS UP"
"A WHITE-KNUCKLE THRILLER OF SCARES AND SHOCKS!"
"AN INGENIOUS AND ENTERTAINING THRILLER."
JODIE FOSTER
PANIC ROOM

Distributed by COLUMBIA PICTURES

NOW SHOWING
MTRCB RATING G General Patronage | ALL AGES ADMITTED

STAR WARS
EPISODE II
ATTACK OF THE CLONES
JOHN WILLIAMS
RICK McCALLUM
GEORGE LUCAS
JONATHAN HALES
GEORGE LUCAS

AYALA CINEMAS
AYALA CENTER

Experience movies like never before at
GREENBELT 3
THX Standard Cinemas 1 & 2
Now Open
GB3 Cinemas 1 & 2 are now open with THX standard sound systems, stadium seating, and plush love seats to give you an unbeatable movie experience.
A new experience in dining and entertainment amidst the greens.

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor **Louie C. Camino**

A 25-hour taping with Ipe, a brief visit with Jinggoy

KRIS AND TELL

Kris Aquino

I'M SORRY I missed my deadline for last Friday's column. The "Maalaala Mo Kaya" episode I taped with **Phillip (Salvador)** had a photo finish because we didn't pack up until 10 a.m. of Thursday, May 23, the day of airing.

I felt like a zombie the entire day since we had worked non-stop for 25 hours. I had only three hours of sleep before proceeding to ABS-CBN to tape "Game KNB." The schedule was excruciatingly difficult, but all the effort was worth it because we got excellent overnight ratings for the episode.

In a way it was a healing process for Ipe and me to work together again. He's still the most brilliant actor I've ever worked with and he managed to help me come up with my most natural and convincing performance. I felt that our scenes together had more depth of feeling because of what we've been through in our personal lives.

I won't deny that there were tense moments during the taping, and we probably put the staff on edge because of our verbal sparring. If I could only share with you what went on behind the scenes. If I did, animosity might creep into our relationship again. So let me keep my mouth firmly shut, except to say that Ipe did act the perfect gentleman even when I probably very nearly pushed him over the edge with an inconsiderate action on our first taping night and some ill-chosen words when we were getting on each other's nerves.

This was probably a week for me to rebuild bridges, especially where my friendships are concerned. Last Friday, I paid a hospital visit to my *kumpareng buo*, **Jinggoy Estrada**. I am godmother to his eldest and only daughter **Janella** and he's godfather to my **Josh**.

A few months back, I already had the chance to renew ties with my *Mareng* **Precy** over a late *merienda*. Since the Estrada impeachment trial, we hadn't seen each other. During my birthday this year, I was touched to get a birthday greeting from Jinggoy. **Boy (Abunda)** and I returned his kind gesture by greeting him Happy Birthday on "The Buzz" a week after.

I'd been waiting for the right time to pay Jinggoy a visit and our mutual friend, **Tatus Aldana**, suggested we pass by Makati Medical.

Jinggoy was warm and in his usual joking mood. I've long maintained that what I appreciate most in Jinggoy is the fact that with him, what you see is what you get.

My heart truly went out to Precy because of the ordeal she had to go through when

A 25-HOUR/A30

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

ARANETA CENTER THEATERS 911-3101	
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-1	AKALA MO
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-2	BENEATH LOCHNESS
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-3 (DDS)	STAR WARS
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS)	SPIDERMAN
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	STAR WARS
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	FRUIT IS SWELLING
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7(DOLBY)	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
FARMERS PLAZA-1(DOLBY)	SPIDERMAN
FARMERS PLAZA-2(DOLBY)	STAR WARS
FIESTA CARNIVAL	
NEW FRONTIER	
MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	KAULAYAW / SNAKE CHARMER
ODEON	STAR WARS
ODEON-2	SANA TOTOO NA
ROBEN	SANA TOTOO NA
TANDEM-1	ITLOG
TANDEM-2	IKA-7 GLORYA
TIMES	OCEAN 11 / ALI
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	CLOSED
ACT-4	CLOSED
CORONET-2	ORIGINAL SIN
QUEZON-1	SANA TOTOO NA
REMAR	AKALA MO
REMAR-2	STAR WARS
NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	SANA TOTOO NA
B	KAPIRASONG GUBAT . . .
C	
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	
CINEMA-2	STAR WARS: EPISODE 2
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	SANA TOTOO NA
CINEMA-2	BUKANG BIBIG
CINEMA-3	K-PAX
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	STAR WARS
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	SPIDERMAN
CINEMA-6	JASON-X
CINEMA-7	VIDEOKE KING
CINEMA-8	SCORPION KING
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	STAR WARS
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	STAR WARS
CINEMA-11(SDDS)	STAR WARS
CINEMA-12	SPIDERMAN
CINEMA-14	SPIDERMAN
CINEMA-15	SPIDERMAN
LORES	
CINEMA-2	CLOSED
CINEMA-3	CLOSED
POWER PLANT CINEMA	
CINEMA-1	SPIDERMAN
CINEMA-2	IN THE BEDROOM
CINEMA-3	STAR WARS: EPISODE 2
CINEMA-4	STAR WARS: EPISODE 2
CINEMA-5	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
CINEMA-6	STAR WARS: EPISODE 2
UNIWIDE METROMALL	
(LAS PINAS)	
CINEMA-1	
CINEMA-2	
CINEMA-4	
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARANAQUE)	
CINEMA-1	ALIPIN NG TUKSO
CINEMA-2	THE OTHER SIDE OF LOVE
CINEMA-4	ALAMID

POWER PLANT
CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

SPIDERMAN - GP 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10	IN THE BEDROOM-R18 1:25, 4:05, 6:45, 9:30	STAR WARS - GP 11:50, 2:40, 5:30, 8:20
STAR WARS - GP 12:40, 3:30, 6:20, 9:10	DEATH TO SMOOCHY-P13 12:05, 2:25, 4:45, 7:05, 9:30	STAR WARS - GP 1:30, 4:20, 7:10,10:00

MATINEE P80.00 - FREE SEATING - SCREENINGS BEFORE 5 PM - MON. TO FRI.

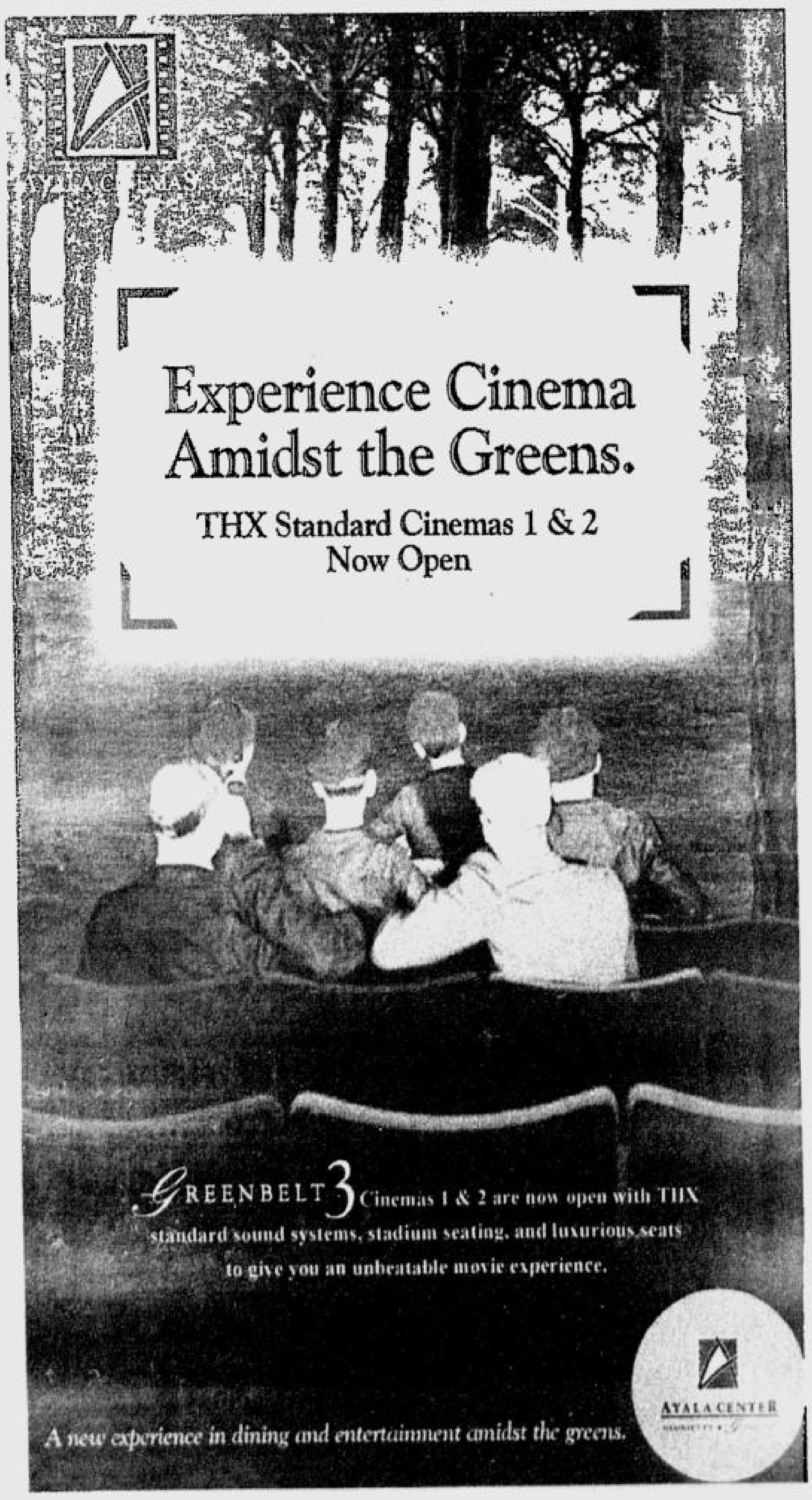
the all-digital sound
AYALA CINEMAS
GLORIETTA 1 &4/GREENBELT 1 & 3
ALABANG TOWN CENTER

NOW SHOWING!

STAR WARS
EPISODE II
ATTACK OF THE CLONES

Ewan McGregor Natalie Portman Hayden Christensen
MTRCB Rating: General Patronage

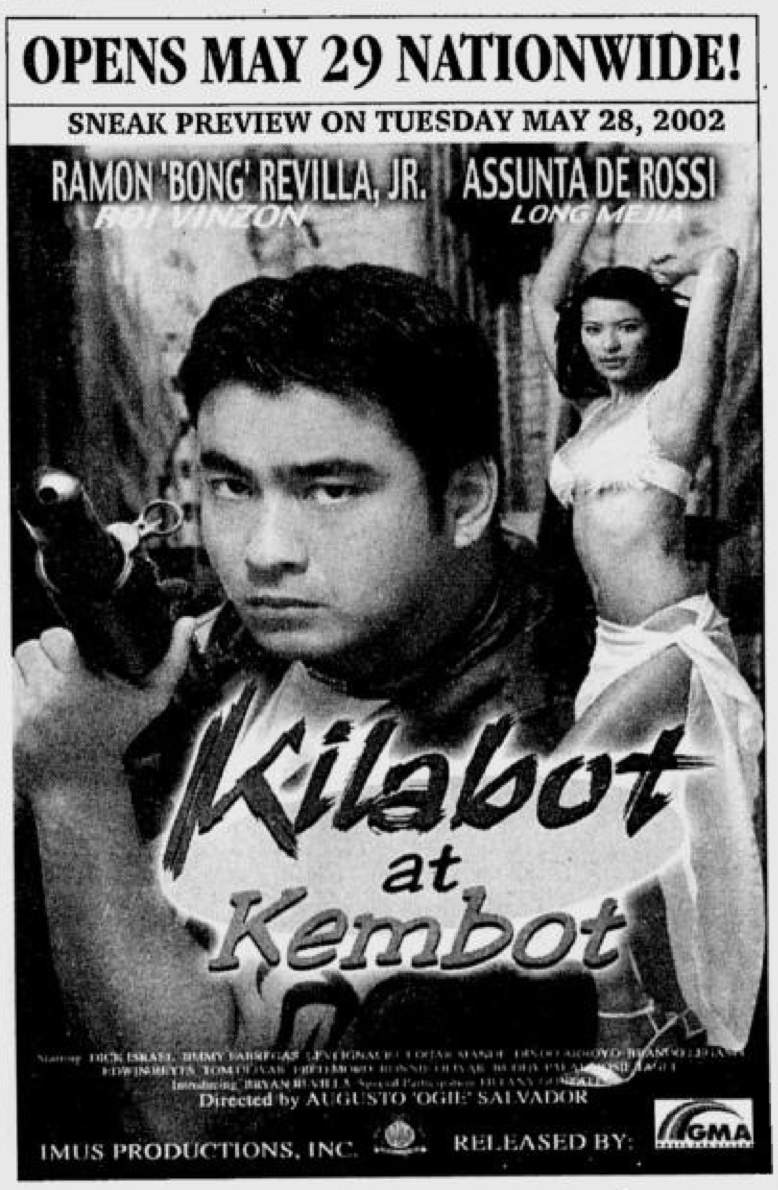
Special Thanks To:
Vortex
Preview
seventeen
COSMOPOLITAN
Good Housekeeping
THX
STAR WARS EPISODE II ATTACK OF THE CLONES



Experience Cinema Amidst the Greens.
THX Standard Cinemas 1 & 2
Now Open

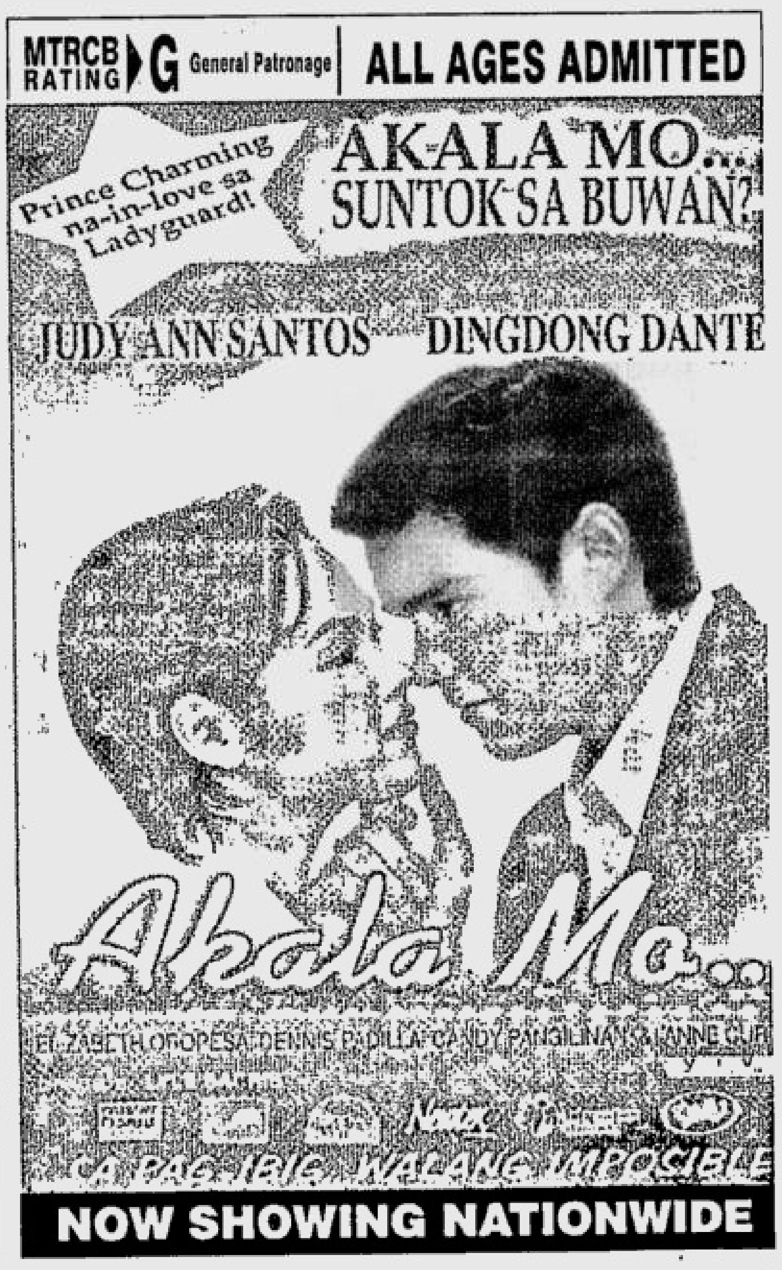
GREENBELT 3 Cinemas 1 & 2 are now open with THX standard sound systems, stadium seating, and luxurious seats to give you an unbeatable movie experience.

A new experience in dining and entertainment amidst the greens.



OPENS MAY 29 NATIONWIDE!
SNEAK PREVIEW ON TUESDAY MAY 28, 2002
RAMON 'BONG' REVILLA, JR. ASSUNTA DE ROSSI

Directed by AUGUSTO 'OGIE' SALVADOR
IMUS PRODUCTIONS, INC. RELEASED BY: GMA



MTRCB RATING ▶ G General Patronage ALL AGES ADMITTED
Prince Charming na-in-love sa Ladyguard!
AKALA MO... SUNTOK SA BUWAN?
JUDY ANN SANTOS DINGDONG DANTE
Akala Mo...
ELIZABETH OROPESA DENNIS PADILLA CANDY PANGILINAN & ANNE CURTIS
SA PAG-IBIG WALANG IMPOSIBLE
NOW SHOWING NATIONWIDE

EXPLOSIVE ACTION STARTS WEDNESDAY!
THE FILM YOU ALMOST FAILED TO SEE... AS HOT AS TODAY'S HEADLINES!!
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13
FROM THE STREETS OF NEW YORK TO THE DOWNTOWN AND TUNNELS OF TEL AVIV, ISRAEL... VAN VAMME BATTLES AN ARMY OF MUSLIM REBELS WITH HIS FISTS, GUNS AND SWORDS!!!
HIS MISSION IS TO SAVE THE WORLD FROM AN OUTBREAK OF A HOLY WAR!
VAN DAMME
JIHAD WARRIOR
Also starring CHARLTON HESTON SOFIA MILOS BEN CROSS

Dati

~~₱8.00/min.~~

(Peak rate from 7:00 a.m. to 9:59 p.m.)

Ngayon

₱6.50/min.

na lang!

ALL DAY, ALL NIGHT RATE

SAVE ₱1.50**

ALL OUT pa sa value-added services!

- Free text* to all local GSM networks
- The more cards you load, the more free text you get!
- Ang daming zed services, like news, logos, ringtones, games and so much more!
- 32K zed plus SIM lets you personalize your cellphone with the services na trip mo!
- 200-entry phone book memory

KAYA BA NG IBA 'TO?

TALK 'N TEXT GSM with zed™ plus

*Number of free text is based on card value loaded.

** Save P1.50 off the previous peak rate of P8.00/min.

P6.50/min. rate is valid for all local and cell-to-cell calls from May 27-June 10, 2002.

Yan ang galing without overspending!

For inquiries, please call (02)888 1111 (GMA), 1800 888 1111(Vis/Min) or *888 from your Talk 'N Text cellphone.

POWERED BY THE SMART NETWORK

COMPAQ
Deskpro
SB 3000
Great value PC
For more info, contact us today!
INTEGRATED COMPUTER SYSTEMS, INC. (ICS)
Tel. 727-3801 Website: www.ics.com.ph

MONDAY
MAY 27, 2002

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BUSINESS
Editor Raul O. Marcelo ◉ Assistant Editor Corrie S. Narisma

acer
we hear you
INQUIRE HERE: Acer Website www.acer.com.ph
Acer Hotline 302-7777/302-7888

US tells RP to amend vehicle tax scheme or face WTO suit

2-month BOP surplus hits $645M
Page B6

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

THE UNITED States has threatened to file a case with the World Trade Organization against the Philippine government if it does not amend the current vehicle tax system, which discriminates against American automakers in the Philippines.

An INQUIRER source said the warning was made by officials of the US Trade Representative led by Chilling Tong during a meeting with government officials early this month.

The USTR claimed that the current engine-based tax system discriminated against US brands, particularly Ford Motor Co., which has advocated for a shift to value-based taxation.

This is the second time that Washington has threatened the Philippines with trade sanctions. A few years ago, the US government made the same threat because the Philippines failed to remove in 2000 the non-tariff barriers or Trade Related Investment Measures (Trims) in the automotive sector such as local content and foreign exchange earning requirements. The Philippines agreed to remove the Trims next year after the United States agreed to a three-year extension.

Ford is seen as the main beneficiary of a price-based tax because it would make its Expeditions (which has the highest engine displacement among sport utility vehicle models in the country) cheaper. The company is keen on revving up the ebbing sales of its former best seller, the Expedition, in the Philippines to make up for the model's flagging sales at home. Ford has likewise pushed for the abolition of the 10-seater rule, which exempts Asian utility vehicles, vans and SUVs of its competitors from the excise tax.

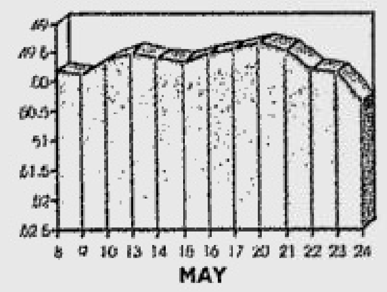
The source said Automotive Trade Policy Council president Stephen J. Collins also stepped up the pressure on the Philippines as he claimed that the Chamber of Automotive Manufacturers of the Philippines Inc.'s position to keep the engine-based tax did not reflect the industry's stand on the issue. Members of Campi, a local automotive group dominated by Japanese assemblers, voted 11 to one to maintain the status quo on vehicle taxes with Ford as the only assembler voting for price-based taxes.

The ATPC—an American lobby group representing the interests of the world's Top 3 automakers (Ford, General Motors, and Daimler Chrysler)—also disputed Campi's claim that keeping the engine-based tax and imposing a minimum 3-percent tax on all vehicles (including 10-seater vehicles) would boost government revenues by 30 percent.

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES

PESO - DOLLAR



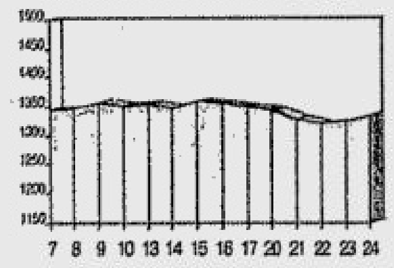
PESO-DOLLAR RATE

₱ 50.35 = $1
As of 5 p.m., May 24, 2002

¥125.02/05=$1
As of 5 p.m., May 24, 2002

GOLD: $320.70/321.20
per ounce Hong Kong,
May 24, 2002

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX



(See stock market report on Page B4)

STOCK MARKET

Lackluster trading seen

ANOTHER week of lackluster trading is expected at the Philippine Stock Exchange on continued jitters over the government's widening fiscal deficit as well as the renewed terrorist threats in the United States.

The National Economic and Development

LACKLUSTER/ B4

executive check-up
Pocket MASK
GLOBE
Menu
Names

Sick cels? Get them checked for free at the
GlobeSolutions mobile clinic
FREE Phone Physical • Replacement & repair of back-casings, antenna, cosmetic parts • Software upgrade • LCD replacement and lots more
It's proactive.care for priority accounts -- care you'll get only from GlobeSolutions.
To find out your company's schedule, contact your GlobeSolutions Specialist today.
Call our GlobeSolutions Hotline at 730-1999 or e-mail us at globesolutions@globetel.com.ph.
making great things possible Globe HANDYPHONE
*The Mobile Clinic runs from June to July 2002 -- call now for your company's appointment!

With these figures, BLAZE puts you in the lead.
With Blaze at 97+, we give you the highest octane ratings in the country.
PETRON

PNOC, Malaysian firm eye revival of oil drilling plan

By Ronnel W. Domingo

THE STATE-OWNED Philippine National Oil Co. is in talks with Malaysia's Petroliam Nasional Bhd on reviving a partnership to explore oil and gas prospects in the Cotabato basin.

PNOC president Thelmo Cunanan said in a press briefing last week, the Cotabato project was started in the mid-1990s but Petronas decided to withdraw due to security and economic problems.

The project was plagued by the kidnapping of one of PNOC's officials, he said.

"But Petronas is now more confident considering the new administration and improved economic conditions," Cunanan said.

He added that officials of PNOC Exploration Corp. were coordinating with their counterparts from Petronas in revisiting the project.

PNOC-EC chief operating officer Rafael del Pilar said in the same briefing the Cotabato prospects were "significant," but he did not give details.

"It must be significant. Petronas does not go after small prospects," Del Pilar said.

State-run Petronas is the biggest oil refiner and distributor of refined products in Malaysia.

Del Pilar also said PNOC-EC was planning to drill exploration wells in new prospects in northwestern Palawan and offshore Mindoro.

"But these are contingency wells, which means drilling will depend on the availability of funds coming from venture partners," he said.

The official said drilling in the two areas would cost a total of $14 million (about P700 million).

In other developments, Cunanan said PNOC expected to have on July 1 a report on the detailed feasibility study for the proposed $600-million naphtha cracker project in Bataan.

He said PNOC was firm on controlling at least a 34-percent stake on the project.

"That would be a blocking minority, which the government intends to maintain," Cunanan said.

A 34-percent stake means that PNOC would have to shell out about $100 million (P5 billion) for the venture since half of it would be in equity.

"There are enough banks (interested to finance the other half) but we cannot name them," Cunanan said.

How do you plan success?

In the fast-paced world of business, success does not come easy. You need the right preparation and the right skills. These are the things ABEP gives you.

The **Master's in Applied Business Economics Program (ABEP)** of UA&P will equip you with the tools for strategic and corporate planning. You will also learn how to wield them with precision to make keen analyses of the business economic environment.

ABEP helps you network with other upwardly-mobile young professionals and our distinguished faculty. It brings UA&P's wealth of research right at your fingertips.

Qualifying Exams are scheduled on **June 8 and 15, 20002**
Interested applicants may contact Elsie Donan at 634-3043 or 637-0912 loc. 225.
You may also e-mail us at abep@uap.edu.ph.

UNIVERSITY OF ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

AUSTRALIA: Education Destination

Manila: 31st May & 1st June
Cebu: 2nd June 2002

Renowned for providing high quality, relevant and cost effective courses for international students, 11 Australian education institution representatives are coming to Manila & Cebu City to conduct interviews and counseling with prospective students, parents and professionals who intend to STUDY IN AUSTRALIA.

FAIR AND SEMINAR INFORMATION

MANILA
Fair:
Ballroom 3, Dusit Hotel Nikko
Ayala Center, Makati City
Friday, 31 May 2002
11:00AM - 9:00PM
Saturday, 1 June 2002
9:00AM - 6:00PM
Seminar:
Camelia-Dahlia-Emilia Room
Dusit Hotel Nikko
Ayala Center, Makati City
Friday, 31 May 2002
6:00PM - 7:30PM

CEBU
Fair:
Bohol Room, Cebu Plaza Hotel,
Nivel Hills, Lahug, Cebu City
Sunday, 2 June 2002
9:00AM - 5:00PM
Seminar:
Leyte Room, Cebu Plaza Hotel
Nivel Hills, Lahug, Cebu City
2:00PM - 3:30PM

*PLEASE BRING CERTIFIED TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS, DIPLOMA AND RESUME

PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS:
*South Australia Institute of Business and Technology * Flinders University*
*University of Southern Queensland * University of Canberra*
*University of Newcastle * Kent Institute of Business and Technology*
*Monash International * University of Sydney * Le Cordon Bleu Australia*
*TAFE NSW and NSW Gov't High Schools * Victoria University of Technology*

KENT INSTITUTE · FLINDERS UNIVERSITY · USQ · MONASH UNIVERSITY · The University of Sydney · University of Canberra · The UNIVERSITY of NEWCASTLE AUSTRALIA · SAIBT

For more information, contact:
idp Education Australia
G/F Salustiana Dee Ty Tower
104 Paseo de Roxas
Legaspi Village, Makati City
Tel Nos: 816 0755 * 754-6281 * 754 6277, 754 6230 * 754 6229
Email: info@manila.idp.edu.au

Everybody is Welcome... Free admission to the FAIR and SEMINAR SESSIONS

Come & Visit Free Admission!

7th Graphic Expo 2002

Digital Imaging, Prepress, Print Production, Web Publishing, Multimedia & Animation

GRAPHIC EXPO 2002
7th Edition

Incorporating
The Philippine Animation Festival

Philippine Trade Training Center
Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City, Philippines
June 05-08, 2002

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

4-day Graphics Technology | 3-day Seminar Series on Graphics & Publishing | Awards Ceremonies of The Annual Digital Art | Philippine Animation Competition | Product Demonstration on Digital Photography, Large Format Printing, Multimedia & Animation

SEMINAR TOPICS

June 5, 2002 Wednesday
- Inside Photoshop 7.0
- Advanced Photoshop for Power Users
- Final Cut Pro 3.0
- Flash Cartooning
- How to Make Effective Newsletters and Other Print Materials

June 6, 2002 Thursday
- PDF Workflow for Prepress
- From Pagemaker to InDesign 2.0
- Color Management & Scanning Techniques
- Web Animation Essentials, Tools, and Techniques
- The Making of Web Videos

June 7, 2002 Friday
- Real World Freehand 10
- Designing A Dynamic Logo System
- Designing Fundamentals for Desktop Publishing
- Photoshop for Print Production

Register Now!

Sponsors:
hp EPSON intel Kodak Digital SONY FUJITSU ELITEGROUP

In Cooperation With:
IdN

Media Sponsors:
IT UPDATE

Organized By
fmi

For details, please contact: (632) 896 0639, 896 0637, 899 6893 • fax: (632) 896-0637, 890-2101
email: fiera@info.com.ph • visit website: http://www.fmi.com.ph

Attention !
Retailers and Wholesalers
Improve your Sales and Inventory Management!

Ripple e-business INTERNATIONAL + IBM = SBS
(Small Business Solution)

盈環國際科技有限公司

The best offer you can get!

For every purchase of an IBM NetVista PC Package, you'll get our powerful Sales and Inventory System plus optional hardware peripherals for as low as P3,888.00 a month!

as low as P 3,888 a month

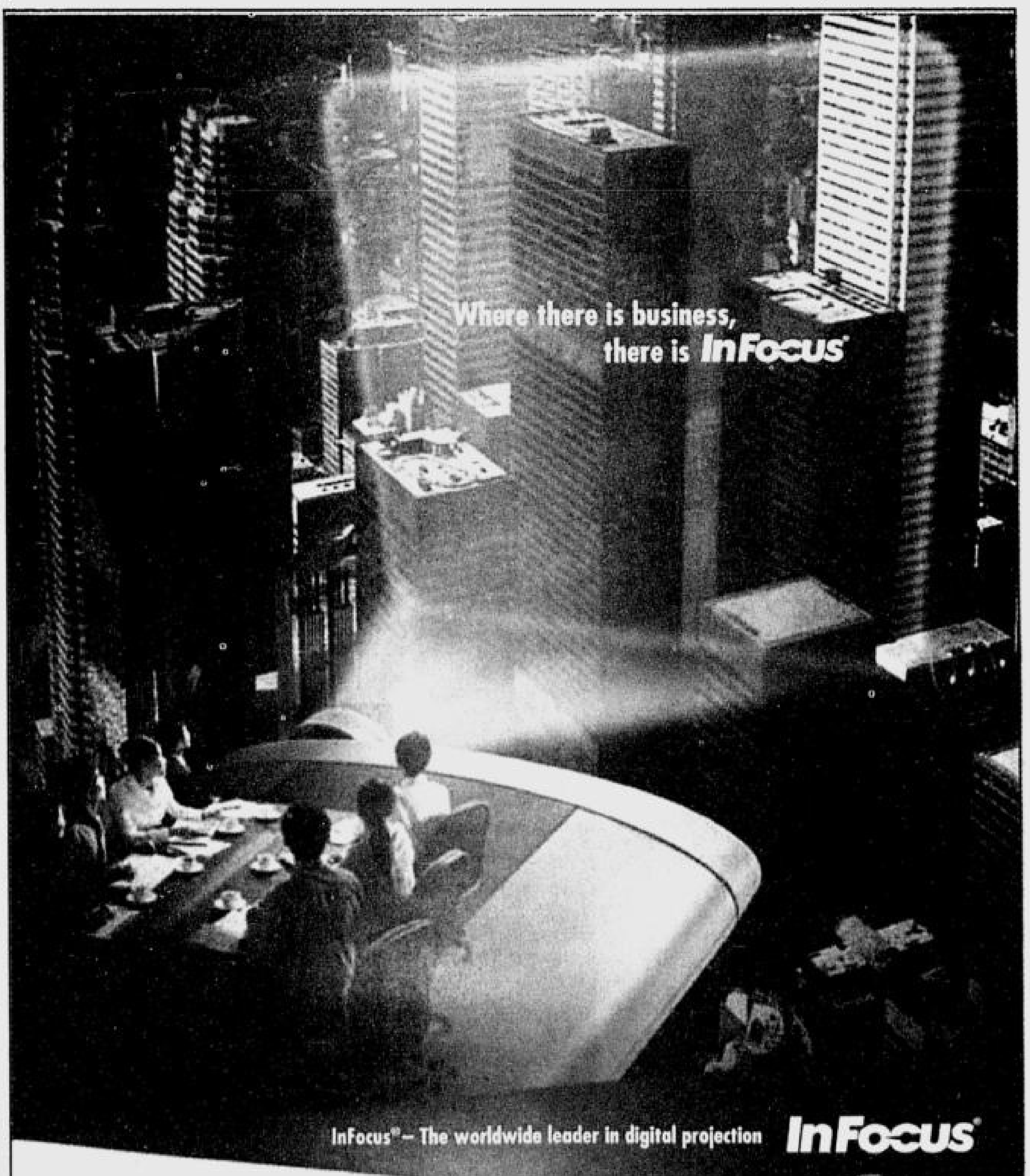
Invest!

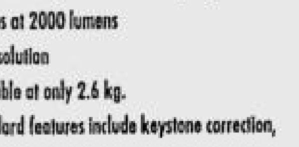
intel inside pentium 4

FREE Setup and Installation until June 30, 2002

Text us now! 0917-2767522
Send your Name plus your Number and we'll call you ASAP!
office : 6871060 or 6874412, e-mail : rippleSBS@iRipple.net
3203 B East Tower, Philippine Stock Exchange Center, Ortigas Center, Pasig City

Windows is a registered trademark of Microsoft Corporation. IBM and NetVista are registered trademarks of International Business Machine Corporation. Ripple SBS is a registered trademark of Ripple E-Business International, Inc.


Where there is business, there is InFocus
InFocus® – The worldwide leader in digital projection
InFocus



InFocus® LP530 Digital Projector:
Turn meetings into spectacular presentations

As one of the world's leading projection device makers, InFocus is committed to creating products at the very forefront of technology..Through continuous research and innovation, InFocus has become one of the most awarded brands for both product design and performance.

So for your best business presentation, look no further than InFocus. With a wide range of compact projectors providing the unique features of plug-and-play and realistic visual reproduction, InFocus is the best choice to project the right image for your business.

LP530 the next generation of projectors
- Brilliant images at 2000 lumens
- Native XGA resolution
- Perfectly portable at only 2.6 kg.
- Powerful standard features include keystone correction, multiple brightness modes and Faroudja video
- Expansion module (optional) accepts input from TWO computers and THREE video sources.

International Limited Warranty: Two years on parts and labor. Philippines: Exclusive InFocus/InCare Program.

For a free demo at the LP530 and/or other models, call 723-0601 or visit www.infocus.com

Exclusive Distributor & Service Provider:
better solutions
AMERICAN TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
url: www.ati.com.ph • e-mail inquire@ati.com.ph
Tel: 723-0601 • Fax: 723-7051

Sigma Rhoans vs Sigma Rhoans

COCKTALES

Victor C. Agustin

THEY may be fraternity brothers in UP Law School, but Sigma Rhoans apparently drop the camaraderie forged in college when it comes to litigation and business.

That at least is the impression being given by the boardroom squabble within Nextel Communications, where Sigma Rhoan lawyers represent the two warring factions.

First, a little background. The American principals of Nextel, in a move to cut mounting losses in the country, have decided to allow the local management and a new group of local investors to buy them out.

The management group is headed by Nextel Communications president Jose Alejandro and former SkyCable managing director Mel Velarde. The lawyers for this management buyout proposal are the Sigma Rhoans from the Villaraza and Angangco law office, whose stable of clients include Fidel Ramos and Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

Unfortunately, the American principals of Nextel left out in the deal Nextel founding president/CEO Antonio Urera, minority shareholder Bernardo Aspirin, and their original lawyers, the Sigma Rhoans from Accra.

Why Accra was dropped by the Americans is not clear, although the sudden shift in political winds is a tantalizing hypothesis.

Aspirin, feeling aggrieved, decided to hire Accra ally Alfonso Reyno Jr. as lawyer to start a congressional investigation against the alleged violation of the Americans of the 60-40 Filipino majority rule for telecom companies.

The anti-Nextel lobby even went to the extent of accusing several local Nextel board members as being "dummies" of the Americans.

What was not carefully thought out in this anti-dummy campaign is that it was the Sigma Rhoans from Accra law office who advised, designed the ownership structure, and even appeared as incorporators/directors, of the local Nextel.

Apparently, there is a paper trail, detailing how the Americans supposedly funneled money to RCBC that RCBC in return lent to Accra Investments to fund the initial capital requirement of the local Nextel.

Now that would be interesting.

A Dragon in Forbes

HIS GSIS-subsidized bank may have gone belly up, but ex-Cavite Congressman Renato Dragon still has oodles of cash that allows him to hobnob with and even thumb his nose against the old rich.

In the blink of an eye after he lost the elections and moved into the gentrified neighborhood, Dragon has become Forbes Park resident watchdog, the chair of the powerful construction and building committee of the Forbes Park Association.

That means any construction or repair within Forbes may not proceed without the green light from the Dragon committee.

And it is in this new role that Dragon has now earned the ire of two leading society matrons.

According to the grapevine, Dragon has picked up a running battle with longtime residents Josine Elizalde and Rosemarie Arenas after Forbes Park guards stopped the delivery of lamps destined for the house of Arenas' daughter, Rachel.

The Forbes guards were apparently acting on orders from Dragon to prevent any delivery of furniture or construction materials for the Arenas house on Pili Street, pending the resolution of a dispute between the FPA board and Arenas.

Upon the recommendation of Dragon, the FPA board stopped the construction of a cabana/servants' quarters that Arenas is building within her property, claiming, among others, that it was "too luxurious" for maids.

The Forbes deed of restrictions limits one single house to be built within each lot although it allows for a "separate garage and maids' quarters." Arenas claims that the cabana/servants' quarters/guest house "or call it what you will" falls within the purview of "separate...quarters."

In any case, Elizalde came to the rescue of Arenas and asked the guards to allow the chandeliers to be delivered instead to the Elizalde residence. The guards only relented after the two fuming ladies personally went to the Tamarind gate to escort the deliv-

COCKTALES/ B8

Citibank seen pursuing bank buyout

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE LOCAL unit of Citibank N.A. is seeking the approval of its parent firm in the United States for the planned acquisition of a local thrift bank to pursue a more aggressive retail banking operation here.

A source from the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas said the country's third biggest bank in terms of assets had asked the parent company to give it the go-ahead to start negotiations with three savings banks.

The BSP official declined to reveal the identity of the acquisition targets but said that Citibank was looking to buy a Manila-based thrift bank with a license to operate a trust and foreign currency deposit units.

"They have narrowed down the choice to three and possibly to one already, that is why they are already seeking a clearance from the parent firm to start negotiating," a central bank official said.

Citibank N.A. is a subsidiary of Citicorp, the world's largest financial group. Its assets as of end-March stood at P276.89 billion or 7.5 percent higher from P257.3 billion in end-2001 and up by 19.4 percent from P231.6 billion a year ago.

Citibank is closely competing with HSBC for a stronger grip on the local market. HSBC had acquired PCIB Savings in late 2000 to expand its retail banking operations.

A central bank official said the foreign lender had asked the BSP for a list of thrift banks with an FCDU license and currently there are 36 of them.

The BSP official said Citibank had expressed a preference for a thrift bank that operates actively in Metro Manila.

BSP Governor Rafael Buenaventura said Citibank would likely go for a small savings bank and simply expand by buying branch licenses being sold by other lenders.

Citibank's strategy, said the BSP chief, could be similar to what American Express Bank Ltd. had done when it bought Omni Savings Bank and its 11 branches late last year.

More than OK... it's OKI.

- Super Fast 3 sec/page transmission and 3 sec/page scanning time
- High-speed printing and scanning at 8 to 10 pages/] minute regardless of content
- Now has a 2 Mb standard Memory or more
- Allows dual access - scanning while receiving or printing and sending which reduces queuing at the machines
- Superior qualities like better, sharper, & surer images up to 600 dpi
- Lowest copy cost & minimal maintenance
- Has the incredible LED printin engine (Light Emitting Diodes). It's solid-system with no moving parts make it durable. Comes with a 5 -year warranty LED engine head.

with 33.6K Modem!

It's the fastest modem and it comes with all OKI models such as the OKI Fax 4550, OKI Fax 5650 (shown above), and OKI Fax 5750. No need to upgrade or incur unnecessary additional cost in the future.

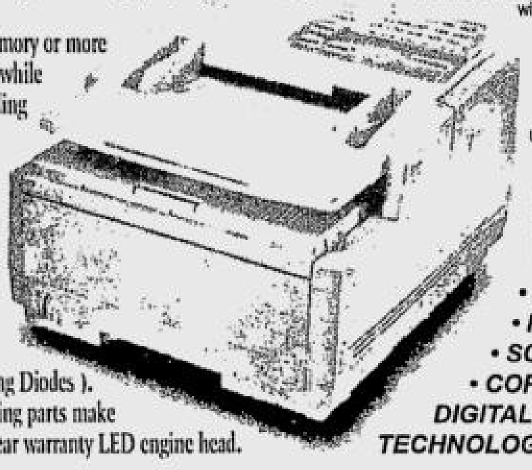
DIGITAL Multi-function FACSIMILE
- FAX
- PRINT
- SCAN (w/ OCR)
- COPY IN DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

Exclusively Distributed By:

Grow the future

LWI LINK WORTH INTERNATIONAL INC.

G/F Valero Plaza, Valero St., Salcedo Village, Makati City Tel. Nos.: 8432070 • 817-8223 • 8164303 • 8135636 • 8126870



PIONEER
in Fax Repair Service.

Our excellence in quality fax repair service is proven.
We've hit the 30,000 mark!

We also repair monitors, printers & other office equipment.

* *Beware of copycats.*

CANON	OKI	SHARP	RICOH
MURATA	PANASONIC	SAMSUNG	HP
NEC	SANYO	XEROX	EPSON

FIRST COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES PHILS., INC.
Unit 21 Valero Plaza, 124 Valero St.,
Salcedo Village, Makati City

Tel.# 818-4501 • 819-0024 • 812-6212 • 817-9527

FAX REPAIR
AS LOW AS
P300

FREE ESTIMATE!

No need to replace your faulty fax.because we can repair it back to perfection-as only the kings can

KINGS COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, INC.
KCS
- M-14 Auro-Vir Plaza, 1695 Evangelista St. Bangkal, Makati City Tels. 894-2309 / 843-6630 / 843-6662
- Rm.201 Columbian Bldg. 160 West Ave. cor. EDSA, Quezon City Tels. 929-2052 / 929-2054

Panasonic	NEC	Samsung
SANYO	[illegible]	[illegible]
Murata	SHARP	OKI
NISSEI	Canon	OTHERS

CUT THIS AD AND AVAIL OF A 10% DISCOUNT

We also repair Computers

Can't use it?
We'll fix it!

60 MINS

JUST CALL US! WE'LL FIX IT IN A FLASH!

Fax machines • Computers / Monitors • Printers (Laser, Deskjet, Dot Matrix) • Key Telephone System Sets • Answering Machines • Paper Shredders • UPS-AVRs • Typewriters and other office equipment

[illegible]	Panasonic
EPSON	SHARP
OKI	XEROX
SANYO	[illegible]
SAMSUNG	brother
Muratec	Canon

One-Stop Service Network
CITIWORLD
BUSINESS MACHINES SERVICES CORP.

Rm. 109 David I Bldg. 567 Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City Tel. Nos.: 725-7031 / 724-5823 / 723-4894

Makati Office: 3A, Trans-Phil House 117 Chino Roces Ave. Corner Bagtikan St., Makati City Tel. Nos.: 895-1435 / 896-6032

EXCLUSIVE PENTHOUSE UNITS NOW AVAILABLE!

Luxury and Convenience has
Never Been So Affordable

Oakwood Premier Ayala Center represents unprecedented value in today's exclusive world of true quality and style. 306 superbly appointed studios, one, two and three bedroom suites made perfect by dedicated service and a residential atmosphere for which Oakwood has become famous across the globe for. For reservations and more information call 729-8888 today.

Oakwood.
PREMIER
AYALA CENTER
The Most Trusted Name in Serviced Apartments Worldwide.

6th Floor Glorietta 4, Ayala Center, Makati City, Metro Manila, Philippines Tel: (63-2) 729 8888 Fax: (63-2) 728 0000 E-mail: info@oakwood.com.ph www.oakwoodmanila.com

Prudentialife DIRECT
864-8000
One number to call for what you need to know about Prudentialife's pre-need plans.

SM Prime Holdings

MR. BEARBULL

Ron Nathan

TODAY, I want to be serious and recommend an excellent stock, which has been sold down for no valid reason.

SM Prime Holdings operates its own department stores within its 12 shopping malls. It derives additional revenue from lessee rentals, food courts, cinema ticket sales, amusement arcades, bowling, and ice-skating. SMPH has started diversifying its interests by forming a joint venture with sister company SM Development Corp., which owns land in Fairview and Parañaque. SMPH will construct middle-income condominiums while SMDC will provide the land. This is a win-win situation for both companies.

SMPH currently has 12 malls operational and is increasing its annual capital expenditure from P4.2 billion to P6 billion over the next three years, which is no problem since it has P10 billion in cash. It will be adding new malls in Bulacan and Baguio and is also constructing another in Dasmariñas, south of Manila. Its major project is the Mall of Asia, which should start construction in 2002 and be finished by 2005/6. Although downsized due to economic conditions, it will still give a major boost to profits once it is fully let.

SMPH and Robinson's will put up malls in Fort Bonifacio, and Wal-Mart and Tesco may join in, which would make it a major shopping complex. SMPH is also considering entering into a joint venture to complete a hotel complex adjacent to its shopping mall in Cebu.

SMPH has often been awarded the title of the best-managed company in the Philippines and this is borne out by its record of continuous double-digit growth. Since 1997, net income has risen steadily from P2.2 billion to P3.6 billion. Earnings per share have improved from 22 centavos to 36 centavos, and with first-quarter profits of 10 centavos, the company looks set for at least 40 centavos for 2002, bearing in mind that the last quarter is the strongest. At P5.90, this would indicate a price/earnings ratio of 14.75, which is well below the industry average of 17. A stock of this caliber should not trade at a discount but at a premium.

In recent months, the stock has fallen 22 percent while the Phisix has fallen only 13 percent. The reasons are purely technical and in no way relate to the fundamentals. A few months ago, Morgan Stanley changed its weighting system from market capitalization to free float. This means that if directors and institutions hold a large proportion of the stock, denoting confidence in the company, the free float is small. So SMPH had it's weighting reduced from 14.2 percent to 9.4 percent. Other companies, which suffered a similar fate, were MBT, TEL and SMC, while ALI, AC and EBC were increased, and newcomer BPI was upweighted from zero to 17 percent.

The Morgan Stanley Index is used by many mutual funds and institutions, which prefer to act as index funds rather than buy stocks on merit. As a result, SMPH, TEL, MBT and SMC were all heavily sold down, and BPI was bought up in huge amounts, pushing the stock to a high for the year. None of this has anything to do with merits of the companies involved, so the sell down was totally illogical and ill conceived.

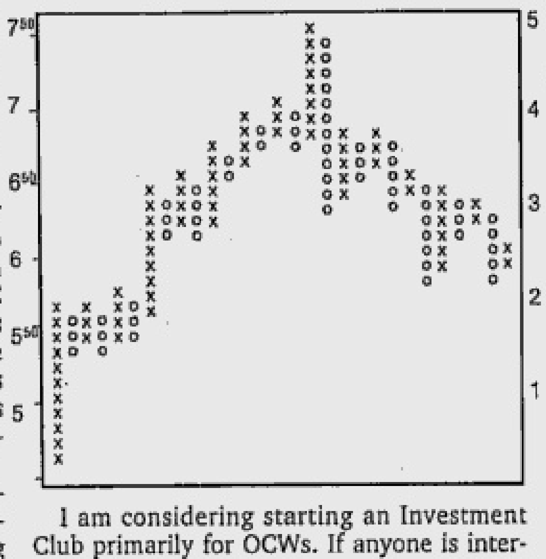
I believe that the fund managers will realize they have made a mistake and start buying it back. In fact, that is what is happening now.

There were fears that after the failure of Highland Prime, Henry Sy would have to sell large amounts of SMPH to support Banco de Oro. This kind of reasoning does not credit Mr. Sy with much intelligence, because he could have either sold Banco de Oro at a lower price, since the float was only 10 percent, or he could have anticipated the problem and sold SMPH months ago, when the price was much higher.

I told newsletter subscribers to buy it last Monday at P5.70 cum a 10-centavo cash dividend, but due to the fact that I only write once a week, this is my first opportunity to recommend it to readers. The price is currently P5.90 ex-dividend but this should not deter investors from buying it as a long-term investment. There is recent support at P5.70.

This year, the company should earn at least 40 centavos a share. By the end of 2004, earnings per share should be about 50 centavos. After the Mall of Asia is completed, earnings should accelerate. As this company has shown itself to be recession-proof, I feel it should command a price/earnings ratio of 20, which would indicate a price target, two years hence, of P10. Even if it sells on a price/earning ratio of 17, the indicated price target would still be P8.50.

Even the lower target would result in capital appreciation of 44 percent by end of 2004, which is far better than the 2 percent offered annually by bank's savings deposits, or treasury bills which offer historically low rates of interest.



I am considering starting an Investment Club primarily for OCWs. If anyone is interested, please contact mrbearbull@hotmail.com.

ang tan golf Club & Shares, Inc.
SEC Licensed Golf & Club Shares Brokers No. 1-673
208 Kalentong Street, Mandaluyong City

SELLING:
Alabang A/B 1,600,000/1,700,000
Baguio Country Club 725,000
Canyon Woods 200,000
Capitol Hills 120,000
Eagle Ridge A 340,000
Fontana A/B/C/D Pls Call
Forest Hills A/B/C 230,000/Pls. Call
Manila Golf Indiv. & Corp. Pls. Call
Manila Southwoods A/B 630/700
Metropolitan "A" 100,000
Mt. Malarayat A/C 300/450,000
Punta Fuego 520,000
Rockwell Club 420,000
Royale Tagaytay A/B 80,000
Sta. Elena A 1.7M
Sherwood A/B/C 100/120/250
Tagaytay Highland Golf 900,000
Tagaytay Midlands Golf 780,000
Wack Wack 7.0M

BUYING:
Alabang A/B 1.6M/1.6M

Baguio Country Club 725,000
Calatagan A 70,000
Camp John Hay Golf 260,000
Canlubang Golf 550,000
Canyon Woods 180,000
Celebrity 180,000
Club Filipino Pls. Call
Eagle Ridge A 340,000
Forest Hills A/B/C 220/260/230,000
Manila Golf (Indiv.) 12M
Manila Polo 2.8M
Manila Southwoods A/B 600/700
Mimosa Indiv/Corp 135,000/275,000
Mt. Malarayat A/B 350/400,000
Orchard A/C 200/330,000
Philippine Columbian 70,000
Quezon City Sports 210,000
Tagaytay Highland Golf 850,000
Tagaytay Midlands Golf 760,000
Valley Golf 250,000
Wack Wack 6,875,000

Other shares & free playing rights available
Tagaytay Highlands Lot, Condo, Belleview, Pinecrest Woodlands

Connie ang
Trading Manager/Real Estate Broker
Sell: Corinthian House 28M, ValleyGolf House 18M (5,000 m²), Valle Verde 13M House, Greenhills, Acropolis, Dasma, Urda, Bel-Air, GreenMeadows
Rentals: Condo & Warehouse
Accept properties for Sale
Tels: (24 Hours)
253-0008 • 256-3188 • 256-6001•0918-3558877

shareXCHANGE
YOUR TRUSTWORTHY CLUB SHARES CONSULTANT
OVER 25 YEARS IN COMBINED CLUB SHARES EXPERIENCE | SEC LIC. # 99

Partial List 05/24/2002

CLUBS	SELLING AT
ALABANG "A"	Call now
CANLUBANG GC	625,000
CAPITOL HILLS	130,000
CELEBRITY CLUB	Call now
FOREST HILLS "A"	215,000
MANILA GOLF (INDIV)	Call now
MANILA POLO	3,000,000
MLA SWOODS "A"	670,000
ORCHARD "A"/"B"	Call now
RIVIERA GCC "A"	Call now
STA. ELENA GC "A"	1,800,000
SUBIC BAY YACHT (INDIV)	200,000
TAGAYTAY MIDLANDS	825,000
THE COUNTRY CLUB	Call now
WACK WACK GOLF	Call now

Share Swapping: Please Call

CLUBS	BUYING AT
ALABANG "A"	1,600,000
BAGUIO CC	Call now
CAMP JOHN HAY	250,000
CC AT TAGAYTAY	Call now
CLUB FILIPINO	200,000
EAGLE RIDGE "A"	300,000
MANILA POLO	2,750,000
MLA SWOODS "B"	Call now
QUEZON CITY SPORTS "A"	285,000
SUBIC BAY YACHT (CORP)	Call now
TAGAYTAY H'LANDS GOLF	820,000
TAGAYTAY MIDLANDS	750,000
VALLEY GOLF	220,000
WACK-WACK GOLF	6,875,000

AVAILABLE LESSORS FOR PLAYING RIGHTS

ALABANG CC "A" 25,000
CC AT TAGAYTAY 20,000
MANILA GOLF 400,000
STA. ELENA "A" 65,000
TAGAYTAY HIGHLANDS 35,000
TAGAYTAY MIDLANDS 30,000
THE COUNTRY CLUB Call now
WACK WACK 90,000

TERE TABUENA, LYRA, KARRENE, LEIZA, FRANCO DEL ROSARIO
809-0233 / 809-0263 / 850-5870-71 / 0918-9043308
E-mail: clubshar@eveserve.com / Fax: 809-8074

GG & A Club Shares
SEC License Broker #007575 * As of May 27, 2002

CLUB	BUYER	SELLER
Alabang Country Club "A" (Filipino)	1,600,000	1,650,000
Alabang Country Club "B" (Foreigner)	Please Call	2,000,000
Baguio Country Club	700,000	740,000
Calatagan Golf Club "A"	70,000	100,000
Calatagan Golf Club "B"	-	110,000
Camp John Hay	250,000	330,000
Canlubang	500,000	Please Call
Canyonwoods	Please Call	200,000
Capitol Hills	-	120,000
Celebrity Sports Club	190,000	220,000
Eagle Ridge "A"/"B"/"C"	Please Call	Please Call
Eastridge "A"	Please Call	Please Call
Evercrest "A"	-	100,000
Forest Hills "A"	200,000	220,000
Forest Hills "B"	210,000	250,000
Forest Hills "C"	250,000	270,000
Makati Sports Club "A"	-	260,000
Makati Sports Club "B"	225,000	-
Manila Golf (Corporate)	-	15,000,000
Manila Golf (Individual)	12,000,000	14,000,000
Manila Polo	2,700,000	Please Call
Manila Southwoods "A"	600,000	630,000
Manila Southwoods "B"	700,000	800,000
Metropolitan Club "A"	-	120,000
Montemar (Individual)	30,000	40,000
Montemar (Corp)	50,000	-
Mt. Malarayat	300,000	350,000
Orchard Golf Club "A"	200,000	250,000
Orchard Golf Club "B"	-	250,000
Orchard Golf Club "C"	300,000	Please Call
Pueblo de Oro "A"/"B"/"C"	-	Please Call
Puerto Azul	-	125,000
Quezon City Sports Club	-	220,000
Riviera Golf & Country Club "A"	-	Please Call
Rockwell	Please Call	650,000
Sherwood Hills "A"	-	100,000
Sta. Elena "A"	1,700,000	1,800,000
Sta. Elena "B"	2,100,000	-
Subic Bay Yacht (Corporate)	-	320,000
Subic Bay Yacht (Individual)	-	170,000
Tagaytay Country Club	410,000	450,000
Tagaytay Highlands	800,000	-
Tagaytay Midlands	780,000	800,000
The Country Club	Please Call	Please Call
Valle Verde (Individual)	150,000	180,000
Valley Golf	270,000	350,000
Wack-Wack Golf Club	6,800,000	7,000,000

PLAYING RIGHTS (Available Lessors)

Alabang "A"	25,000	Mimosa Golf	25,000
Calatagan "A"	10,000	Orchard "A"	30,000
Canlubang	60,000	Riviera "A"	15,000
Eagleridge	15,000	Sta. Elena	60,000
Eastridge "A"	20,000	Tagaytay CC	20,000
Forest Hills	30,000	Tagaytay Golf	45,000
Manila Southwoods	20,000	Tagaytay Mid.	35,000
Makati Sports "A"	25,000	Valley Golf	20,000
Manila Golf	300,000	Wack-Wack	90,000

For more information, please call:
ALABANG 850-8223 • Fax 772-1817
MAKATI 840-1761• Fax 894-3021 / 750-7894
or e-mail at: ggashare@mozcom.com
Penthouse, Pacific Star Bldg., Sen Gil Puyat cor. Makati Ave., Makati City
GET OUR LATEST CLUB SHARE QUOTES BY TEXTING
GGA HELP
to 2333 for GLOBE Handyphone subscribers
or 288 for Smart Gold & Buddy subscribers
Visit us at www.ggaclubshares.com

Amex expects RP economy to grow by 3.8% this year

By Doris C. Dumlao

AMERICAN Express Bank Ltd. has projected that the Philippine domestic economy could expand by a faster pace of 3.8 percent this year and further by 4 percent next year owing to strong consumer demand, robust agriculture sector, higher fiscal spending and improving industrial production.

The peso is also seen to strengthen to 48.50-49 in the next three to six months but slide back to the 50-level against the US dollar in 12 months alongside the expected volatility of the Japanese yen, Amex economist Kevin Grice said in an interview with the INQUIRER on Friday.

"The US upswing is like a tide that's lifting all boats," Grice said. "It's even lifting Japan and I think the outlook is very good for the rest of Asia."

"In the Philippines, there are signs that exports are coming back so you'll get a stronger manufacturing production. Also, you're getting strong domestic demand. The agriculture sector has been doing quite well, plus you've got quite low interest rates and increases in fiscal spending," Grice said.

The London-based Amex economist said this pattern was being replicated across the Asian region, leading to an across-the-board pick-up in economic growth in 2002 relative to last year.

Grice said the Philippine government's target of 4-4.5 percent growth in gross domestic product (GDP) was quite ambitious. However, he agreed that growth would be better over last year's 3.4 percent and that the expansion would be sustained in 2003.

"We think there will be a fairly solid growth of 3.5-4 percent this year," Grice said.

But a key risk hounding the Philippines, Grice noted, was the weather forecasters' warning of a possible recurrence of an El Niño dry spell in the second half of the year.

"It's a big uncertainty. It may impact on agriculture and that may slow domestic demand quite a bit in the second half of the year but we think that by that time, you'll have more evidence of exports doing well and a strong industrial sector, so that should offset a weaker agricultural sector," he said.

Grice also said the country did not seem to face significant pressures on inflation.

"We see inflation staying at where it is now—at about 3.5 percent—and we think that because of that, there is no immediate pressure for the central bank to follow the US Fed (Federal Reserve) if the Fed raises interest rates in August," he said.

"If there are interest rate hikes in the Philippines, we don't think they'll come through before the 4th quarter at the earliest," he said.

Interest rates may have to rise a little bit in the first half of 2003 but the rise will likely be gradual and limited to only 50 basis points, he projected.

Concerning the peso, Grice said there was some more room for the local currency to appreciate depending on the movement of the yen.

AMEX/ B6

FRANCISCO V. DEL ROSARIO HOLDINGS, INC.
OUR 20th Year
YOUR TRUSTED SPECIALIST BROKER SINCE 1982 • SEC License #2115
BUY/SELL COUNTRY CLUB SHARES
AS OF MAY 24, 2002

		ASKED PRICE	BID PRICE
1	ALABANG COUNTRY CLUB "A"	1,650,000.00	
2	BAGUIO COUNTRY CLUB	800,000.00	
3	BUENAVISTA NATURE PARK & COUNTRY CLUB	Please call	-
4	CALATAGAN GOLF CLUB	-	100,000 af/n
5	CAPITOL HILLS GOLF CLUB	120,000.00	-
6	COUNTRY CLUB AT TAGAYTAY	500,000.00	416,000.00
7	EASTRIDGE GOLF CLUB	200,000.00	
8	FAIRWAYS & BLUEWATER	-	Please call
9	FONTANA "D"	70,000.00	-
10	FOREST HILLS GOLF CLUB "C"	-	250,000.00
11	MANILA GOLF CLUB (Ind.)		11,000,000.00
12	MANILA POLO CLUB		2,700,000.00
13	MANILA SOUTHWOODS "B"		700,000.00
14	MIMOSA (Ind.)	-	120,000.00
15	MONTEMAR BEACH CLUB	35,000.00	-
16	MT. MALARAYAT "B"	400,000.00	
17	ORCHARD GOLF CLUB "B"	275,000.00	-
18	ORCHARD GOLF CLUB "C"	-	330,000.00
19	PUERTO AZUL BEACH CLUB "A"	100,000.00	-
20	PUNTA FUEGO	650,000.00	
21	PHILIPPINE COLUMBIAN ASSOCIATION	80,000.00	
22	ROCKWELL	550,000.00	
23	RIVIERA GOLF CLUB "A"	200,000.00	
24	RIVIERA GOLF CLUB "B"	250,000.00	
25	RIVIERA GOLF CLUB "C"	300,000.00	
26	STA. ELENA GOLF CLUB "A"	1,700,000.00	-
27	SHERWOOD HILLS "A"	-	75,000.00
28	SHERWOOD HILLS "B"	200,000.00	-
29	SPA & LODGE	900,000.00	
30	SUBIC YACHT CLUB	200,000.00	-
31	TAGAYTAY MIDLANDS	-	770,000.00
32	VALLEY GOLF CLUB	-	240,000.00
33	WACK WACK GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	7,000,000.00	-
34	THE COUNTRY CLUB	2,800,000.00	
35	OTHERS	Please call	

PLAYING RIGHTS ALSO AVAILABLE

ALABANG COUNTRY CLUB	P 30,000.00	STA. ELENA GOLF CLUB	60,000.00
CALATAGAN GOLF CLUB	free rental	TAGAYTAY GOLF CLUB	50,000.00
CANLUBANG GOLF CLUB	55,000.00	TAGAYTAY MIDLANDS	40,000.00
COUNTRY CLUB AT TAGAYTAY	20,000.00	VALLEY GOLF CLUB	15,000.00
MAKATI SPORTS CLUB	20,000.00	WACK WACK GOLF CLUB	80,000.00
MANILA SOUTHWOODS	30,000.00	ORCHARD GOLF CLUB	20,000.00
		OTHERS	Please call

AMELIA B. MAGAT
Asst. Treas. / Comptroller
or call
ROMEO M. RIBAÑO / SHIONEL PIGA / REYNALDO CUEVAS
Ground Floor, Tuscan Building, 114 Herrera Street
Legaspi Village, Makati City
Tels: 818-6901 • 818-6936 • 818-6048 Fax 818-6453
E-mail address: fvdrc@info.com.ph

Lackluster . . .

From page B1

Authority is set to release the Philippines' first-quarter economic growth figures this week, but not even the expectedly favorable report is certain to perk up the market.

Economic Planning Secretary Dante Canlas said last week that the domestic economy likely expanded by at least 3.8 percent in the first quarter from a year ago on robust agriculture and services sectors as well as improving industrial output. He said the three-month gross domestic product growth had likely hit the lower end of the government's 3.8- to 4.2-percent target for the period.

DBS Vickers Securities associate director for sales Enrique Sta. Ana said he was not sure whether the market would react positively to even the robust growth figures, following the generally disappointing first-quarter corporate earnings.

"Some investors will probably come up with a reasoning that they don't see it and that it takes time for growth to filter down," Sta. Ana said.

Sta. Ana said news on the corporate front had slackened after the release of the first-quarter earnings.

"We'll be lucky to hit P1 billion in value turnover and for as long as the volume is still below P1 billion, trading will still be lackluster. I think the market (should) break 1,300 on the downside to encourage new buying," he said.

Because of the poor first-quarter corporate results, Sta. Ana said stock valuations must adjust downward to make local stocks attractive to bargain-hunters. *Doris C. Dumlao*

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of Friday, May 24, 2002)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Banco de Oro Univ. Bank	20.75	20.75	20.5	20.75	646,000
Bank of the Phil. Islands	55.5	56	55.5	56	1,026,000
China Banking Corp.	630	630	630	630	40
Citystate Savings Bank	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	2,000
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	38	39	38	39	173,900
First E-Bank Corp.	1.74	1.74	1.74	1.74	119,000
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	40	40.5	40	40	44,100
Philippine National Bank	40.5	40.5	40	40	41,500
Phil. Savings Bank	26.5	26.5	26.5	26.5	1,000
Security Bank Corp.	15.5	15.5	15.5	15.5	60,000
Union Bank of the Phil.	23	23.25	23	23.25	85,900
FINANCIAL SERVICE					
Bankard Inc.	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	20,000
Manulife Financial Corp.	1455	1470	1455	1470	1,640
PCI Leasing & Fin. Inc.	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	10,000
Sun Life Financial Serv.	1095	1105	1095	1105	7,340
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	30	30	29.5	29.5	48,000
Digital Telecom Phils. Inc.	0.6	0.61	0.6	0.6	1,230,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	665	680	665	680	38,440
Ipeople Inc.	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	10,000
Island Info and Tech Inc.	0.038	0.038	0.038	0.038	700,000
Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp.	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	1,000
Piltel	0.36	0.4	0.36	0.39	4,560,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	422.5	432.5	422.5	432.5	88,350
Philweb.Com Inc.	0.017	0.017	0.016	0.017	25,500,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	24	25	24	25	24,500
Manila Electric Co. B	37	38.5	37	38	924,800
Petron Corp.	1.84	1.9	1.84	1.88	12,982,000
Salcon Power Corp.	1.64	1.64	1.64	1.64	250,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.87	240,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Asian Terminals Inc.	1.26	1.3	1.2	1.2	160,000
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	2.7	2.7	2.65	2.65	330,000
William, Gothong & Aboitiz	2.24	2.24	2.2	2.2	65,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	80,000
Union Cement Corp.	0.71	0.71	0.7	0.7	390,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	2.16	2.3	2.16	2.28	857,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	1,515,300
La Tondeña Distillers Inc.	34	34	33.5	34	266,700
RFM Corp.	1.28	1.28	1.28	1.28	52,000
San Miguel Corp. A	48	48.5	48	48	33,000
San Miguel Corp. B	56	56	55.5	56	715,200
Universal Robina Corp.	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	40,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Abacus Con Res & Hdg A	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.36	80,000
Ayala Corp.	5.7	5.8	5.6	5.7	4,693,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	2.34	2.34	2.32	2.32	2,913,000
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	0.28	0.29	0.28	0.29	1,110,000
A. Soriano Corp.	0.57	0.57	0.56	0.56	500,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.0085	0.0085	0.0085	0.0085	5,000,000
Anglo Phil Holdings Corp.	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.29	100,000
ATN Holdings Inc.	2.9	2.9	2.85	2.9	40,000
Baguio Gold Holdings Corp.	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	90,000
Balabac Resources & Hldgs.	0.14	0.15	0.14	0.15	110,000
Boulevard Holdings Inc.	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.11	100,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	0.53	0.54	0.53	0.54	3,230,000
Crown Equities Inc.	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	200,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	1.46	1.46	1.46	1.46	292,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	24	24.25	24	24.25	131,100
Global Equities Inc.	0.13	0.135	0.13	0.135	770,000
Ionics Inc.	7	7	7	7	6,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	1.78	1.78	1.78	1.78	30,000
Megaworld Corp.	0.77	0.78	0.77	0.77	12,040,000
Multitech Inv. Corp.	0.53	0.53	0.52	0.53	160,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.24	0.25	0.24	0.25	310,000
Philcomsat Holdings Corp.	0.75	0.75	0.61	0.61	20,000
Prime Orion Phils. Inc.	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	10,000
Roxas Holdings Inc.	0.8	0.8	0.79	0.79	250,000
Solid Group Inc.	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.33	70,000
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.1	0.1	0.0975	0.0975	1,400,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.24	0.25	0.24	0.25	110,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Corro-Coat Inc.	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	5,000
Euro-Med Lab. Phil. Inc.	4.05	4.05	4	4.05	7,000
Pryce Corp.	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	90,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICE					
Belle Corp.	0.39	0.4	0.39	0.4	360,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (Pdr)	30	30.5	30	30.5	119,400
Equitable PCI Bank-War	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	40,000
Globe Telecom Hldg. (Pdr)	810	830	810	830	1,550
PLDT (10% Pref) Series V	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	1,700
Philweb.Com Inc.-Warrants	0.0042	0.0042	0.0042	0.0042	13,000,000
OTHERS					
Far Eastern University	420	420	420	420	150
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	7.2	7.3	7.1	7.2	13,174,000
Cityland Development Corp.	3	3	3	3	50,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.34	0.35	0.34	0.35	1,720,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	460,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	3.1	3.15	3.05	3.05	1,661,000
Highlands Prime Leisure	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	60,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	5.9	6	5.9	6	7,301,000
UrbanCorp. Realty Dev. Inc.	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	10,000
MINING					
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.0032	0.0032	0.0032	0.0032	1,000,000
Benguet Corp. B	2.06	2.06	1.5	1.5	3,000
Itogon-Suyoc Mines Inc.	0.039	0.04	0.038	0.04	18,400,000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.24	0.24	0.23	0.23	11,810,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co. B	0.25	0.25	0.245	0.245	850,000
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.005	0.005	0.005	0.005	4,000,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	0.33	0.33	0.31	0.31	540,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	0.35	0.35	0.34	0.34	1,180,000
OIL					
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.0032	0.0032	0.003	0.0032	64,000,000
South China Resources Inc	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	30,000

	SHARES	VALUE (P)
Banks & Fin Svc	2,238,420	94,583,185.00
Comm'l & Ind'l	98,491,190	259,063,965.00
PRO	24,436,000	144,878,750.00
Mining	37,783,000	4,271,920.00
OIL	64,030,000	211,500.00
GRAND TOTALS:	226,978,610	503,009,320.00

AVERAGES		
Banks & Fin Svc	544.41	UP 1.56
Comm'l & Ind'l	1,802.83	UP 16.09
PRO	609.90	UP 6.67
Mining	1,468.79	UP 6.71
OIL	1.23	DOWN 0.01
All Shares Index	759.60	UP 7.73
Composite	1,335.12	UP 11.18

NO. OF ADVANCES: 33; NO. OF DECLINES: 23; NO. OF UNCHANGED: 40; NO. OF TRADED ISSUES: 96; NO. OF TRADES: 2,133

CURRENCIES

May 24, 2002

Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Foreign currency in US$	Foreign currency in Peso
United States	Dollar	1.084599	1.000000	49.8280
Japan	Yen	0.008679	0.008002	0.3987
United Kingdom	Pound	1.577983	1.454900	72.4948
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.139056	0.128210	6.3884
Switzerland	Franc	0.687325	0.633714	31.5767
Canada	Dollar	0.707039	0.651890	32.4824
Singapore	Dollar	0.602387	0.555401	27.6745
Australia	Dollar	0.604907	0.557724	27.7903
Bahrain	Dinar	2.877073	2.652661	132.1768
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.289219	0.266660	13.2871
Brunei	Dollar	0.600719	0.553863	27.5979
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000121	0.000112	0.0056
Thailand	Baht	0.025299	0.023326	1.1623
UAE	Dirham	0.295306	0.272272	13.5668
Korea	Won	0.000881	0.000812	0.0405
Euro	Euro	1.000000	0.922000	45.9414
Brazil	Real	0.428526	0.395101	19.6871
Denmark	Kroner	0.134539	0.124045	6.1809
India	Rupee	0.022149	0.020421	1.0175
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.285421	0.263158	13.1126
Mexico	New Peso	0.113749	0.104877	5.2258
New Zealand	Dollar	0.514198	0.474091	23.6230
Norway	Kroner	0.134085	0.123626	6.1600
Pakistan	Rupee	0.018106	0.016694	0.8318
South Africa	Rand	0.107195	0.098834	4.9247
Sweden	Kroner	0.109559	0.101013	5.0333
Syria	Pound	0.024819	0.022883	1.1402
Taiwan	NT Dollar	0.031685	0.029214	1.4557
Venezuela	Bolivar	0.001087	0.001002	0.0499

Chrysler eyes RP as relocation site for China plant

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

DAIMLER Chrysler group, the world's third biggest automaker, is currently choosing between the Philippines, Malaysia and Indonesia as the potential relocation sites for its struggling factory operations in China.

An industry source said Daimler Chrysler senior manager for external affairs Heribert Keppler had already relayed his firm's keen interest in the Philippines to the Macapagal administration.

The source said government officials were currently drawing up a strategy to convince Daimler Chrysler to choose the Philippines over its Asean neighbors Malaysia and Indonesia. The source said Daimler Chrysler's management noted the Philippines' image problem as a major drawback to its interest in the country.

If the Philippines snares the Daimler Chrysler project, it will give a big lift to the waning investor confidence in the Philippines, which has been getting a diminishing share of foreign direct investments in Asia in the last few yeas with China sucking the bulk of foreign capital flows in the region.

There has been speculation in China that Daimler Chrysler would not renew its joint venture with the state-run Beijing Automotive Industry (Group) Corp., Beijing Jeep Co. Ltd., which expires next year due to diminishing sales, worsening shareholder disagreements, and financial trouble. The planned closure of Beijing Jeep dovetails with Daimler Chrysler's cost-cutting strategy.

The venture was established in 1983 by Chrysler Corp., making it the first Sino-foreign automotive venture in China. Daimler took over the partnership when the German luxury carmaker effected a merger with the American automaker known for its minivans and sport utility vehicles.

Beijing Jeep's market share has dropped sharply to less than one percent in 2001 from its peak of 10 percent in 1994 as funding problems hobbled the firm's marketing efforts and tight competition eroded its profit margins.

Daimler Chrysler is looking closely at the Philippine performance of Ford Motor Co., which was granted lavish perks by the government when the No. 2 automaker set up its assembly plant in 1998.

It currently sells its vehicles in the country through its local partner, Norkis Automotive Resources Corp. Two years ago, Daimler Chrysler was allowed by Malacañang to bring in as much as 7,000 semi-knocked down units up to 2003 to encourage it to put up an assembly plant here.

Daimler Chrysler, however, had a hard time disposing of its initial batch of SKD imports because of the economic crisis, which has raised doubts on whether it would advance into assembly here specially with tariffs set to go down by next year.

Monetary Board approves $100-M MWSS borrowing

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE POLICY-MAKING Monetary Board of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas has approved a $100-million borrowing of the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System.

BSP Deputy Governor Amando Tetangco Jr. said the water regulator would issue fixed-rate notes to pay a maturing obligation of the same amount.

State-run MWSS used to be the sole water provider in Metro Manila until it privatized the service to two concessionaires. Manila Water Co. of the Ayala group runs the West portion while Maynilad Water Services Inc. of the Lopez family operates the East.

MWSS now acts as administrator and regulator of water services and the bulk of its loans was absorbed by the concessionaires, particularly by Maynilad.

A borrower, whether the government or a private company, needs to secure the approval of the Monetary Board to ensure that the exercise would not conflict with any of its policies.

BSP Governor Rafael Buenaventura said this was the time to borrow while spreads on Philippine debt continued to tighten and while interest rates remained reasonable.

Most analysts believed that interest rates would start going up toward the second half of the year in most global markets in reaction to a planned hike in the short-term interest rates of the United States.

Monetary authorities needed to ensure that the country's debt maturity would not bunch up in the short term. The central bank prefers longer-term instruments to lengthen the maturity profile of the country's loans.

Currently, the bulk of the outstanding foreign debt of the country or close to 90 percent was medium- and long-term with an average maturity period of 16 years.

Tetangco could not recall the tenor of the MWSS borrowing.

Aside from the maturity, the central bank also monitors the level of foreign borrowings and makes sure it does not exceed the limits the country had agreed with the International Monetary Fund in the course of the post-program monitoring of the economic performance.

The country still has enough room to borrow from abroad, the BSP said.

Any foreign borrowing would also help boost the country's dollar reserves even for a brief period. As of end-April, the gross international reserves stood at a little over $17 billion, boosted by the proceeds of a $1-billion bond issue of the government in March.

EEI CORPORATION
1931

NOTICE OF ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the 2002 Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of EEI CORPORATION will be held on June 11, 2002, at 10:00 AM at RCBC Plaza, Ayala Avenue corner Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City, Metro Manila, to consider and act upon the following matters:

1. Certification of Sending of Notices and Quorum.
2. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Stockholders' Meeting held on May 08, 2001.
3. Chairman and CEO's Report/Review of Operations.
   - a. 2001 Highlights
   - b. Outlook for 2002
4. Approval of the Annual Report and Ratification of the Actions of the Board of Directors/Officers.
5. Election of Directors.
6. Amendment of Article 11, Section 1 and Article III, Section 4 of the By-Laws.
7. Transaction of other business which may come before the meeting.
8. Adjournment.

The Board of Directors has fixed the close of business on March 31, 2002 as the record date for the purpose of determining the Company's stockholders entitled to notice, and to vote at the said meeting.

Stockholders who cannot attend the meeting but would like to be represented thereat, should accomplish the proxy form which have been mailed to them together with the Agenda, Proxy Statement, and Annual Report, and return the same to us not later than 24 hours before the meeting.

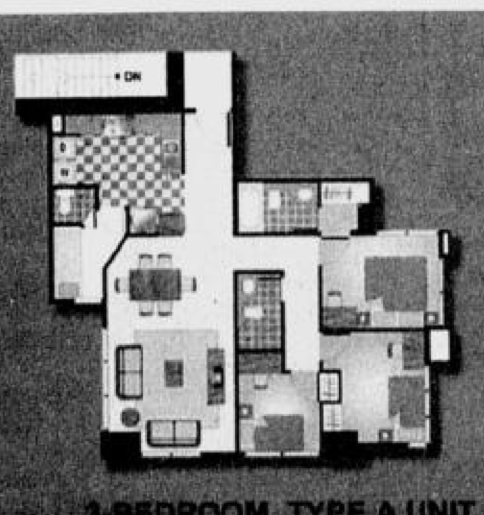
FERDINAND G. VILLAFUERTE
Senior Vice President & Corporate Secretary

Car fridge & Warmer
from UNISPHERE
100% IMPORTED
INTRODUCTORY PRICE
P 2,695

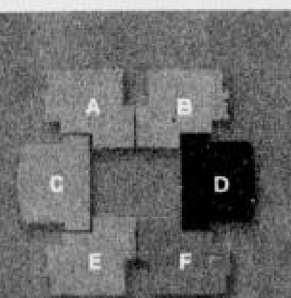
GOING ON A ROADTRIP?
As Seen On TV
Aren't you forgetting something?
Trips out-of-town will always be pleasant with the new Car Fridge & Warmer by your side. Unlike others, the Car Fridge & Warmer is handy enough to fit anywhere, giving your family and friends a more comfortable & luxurious experience all throughout those long trips. And thanks to its state-of-the-art thermoelectric heating and cooling system, you can enjoy fresh, hot or cold meals wherever you go. Just plug it into your cigarette lighter and select your temperature! ROAD TRIPS WILL NEVER BE THE SAME!!
The perfect traffic mate
Features:
- Makes other coolers obsolete
- Plugs into vehicle's 12 volt DC outlet
- Heats up to approx. 120 F° (49 C°)
- Thermoelectric system cools to 45 F° (7 C°)
Dimensions: 31cm x 17cm x 27cm
For orders call: 910-5113
For Dealership call: 671-5955
Available at:
ANSONS PASAY ROAD- 8921392 • ANSON'S LANDMARK- 8191513 • ANSON'S GALLERIA- 6329479 • TRUE VALUE MAKATI- 8671208 • TRUE VALUE SHANGRILA PLAZA- 6350408 • TRUE VALUE ROCKWELL- 8980912 • TRUE VALUE ALABANG- 8075225 ALL ACE HARDWARE BRANCHES • ALL HANDYMAN BRANCHES • CATS GREENHILLS- 7221136 • TYRERACK ORTIGAS- 7236848 MASPRO- 7310301 • CAMPERSHELLS- 7327070 • WINTERPINE- 7164831 • TOYOTA OTIS- 5641811 • TOYOTA BALINTAWAK- 9262580 • TOYOTA QUEZON AVE.- 7125001 • TOYOTA BEL-AIR- 8970222 • TOYOTA ALABANG- 8000801 • DIAMOND MOTORS ORTIGAS- 7270351 • FORD EDSA- 7267181 • FORD LIBIS- 6372044 • FORD MAKATI- 8185555 • FORD BALINTAWAK- 9279648 FORD QUEZON AVE.- 7312617 • NISSAN GALLERY- 6355888 • NISSAN MANTRADE- 8433316 • NISSAN BROADWAY SALES- 5259061 • NISSAN BALINTAWAK- 3305331 • GM AUTO WORLD QUEZON AVE.- 3741250 • CITIMOTORS MAKATI- 8920331 CITIMOTORS LAS PINAS- 8733973 • MITSUBISHI OTIS- 5244111 • MISUBISHI BALINTAWAK- 3307574 • UNION MOTORS- 3642061 HONDA MAKATI- 8524181 • HONDA QUEZON AVE.- 7126850 • HONDA MANILA- 5622505 • HONDA ALABANG- 8077889 ISUZU PASIG- 9105121 • ISUZU COMMONWEALTH- 9522760 • ISUZU ALABANG- 8093609 • ISUZU OTIS- 5624601 SAVER'S TARLAC- (045)9822863 • SAVER'S MALL- (045)6258111 • SAVER'S MART- (045)3220893
Distributed by:
U.S.A. & EUROPE: 20th Century Mktg E-mail: century@psnw.com ASIA PACIFIC: Unisphere Holdings Inc. E-mail:unispher@pacific.net.ph

---

PENHURST PARKPLACE
WHY SPEND HARD SAVINGS TO BUY MORTGAGED PROPERTY FROM MIDDLEMAN & RISK GETTING NOTHING BUT POORER !
When you can buy services to build direct at half the cost and half the delivery time.
We used to do it for the middleman too!! ☺
LOCATION : Fort Bonifacio Global City neighbor to Forbes Park & Manila Golf.



3-BEDROOM TYPE A UNIT
109.14 sqm.



For more information or to be invited to a presentation.
Please call telephone numbers:
631-6571 to 77
637-0234 to 36

3-BEDROOM TYPE B UNIT
109.14 sqm.
★163.70 SQM. UNITS ALSO AVAILABLE.
For only P36,200/sqm. to P39,980/sqm. own a 3-Bedroom Corner Unit for 3.95
✓ 60% open space and garden with a swimming pool.
Project Proponents:
G.W G&W ARCHITECTS • ENGINEERS PROJECT DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANTS SPECIAL PROJECTS DIVISION
DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT
FORT BONIFACIO DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
LAND PROVIDER
iBank
TRUSTEE BANK

2-month BOP surplus hits $654M

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE COUNTRY registered a balance-of-payments surplus of $654 million in the first two months of the year. The amount represents a 160-percent improvement from the BOP deficit of $1.087 billion in the same period last year.

The BOP surplus as of February, however, declined by almost 19 percent or by $152 million from the surplus in January of $806 million, data from the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas showed.

BSP Governor Rafael Buenaventura attributed the BOP surplus to a strong current account performance and a lower net financial and capital outflow.

An indicator of the investors' confidence in the economy and the country's ability to settle its obligations, the BOP is influenced by two items. These are the current account that reflects movements in trade and the capital and financial account, which shows the flow of investments and borrowings.

A BOP surplus indicates that there are more funds coming into the country as a result of trade, investments and borrowings than the amount of funds going out.

The current account in February showed a surplus of $1.802 billion, or 39 percent more than the year-ago surplus of $1.296 billion.

An improving trade account reflects the slowdown in the contraction of the country's exports during the first two months of the year.

Buenaventura said the current account was also buoyed by a stronger dollar remittance from overseas workers and an improving tourism business.

The deficit in capital and financial account, the other major component of the BOP, also dropped by 32.2 percent to $1.421 billion from $2.096 billion in the first two months of 2001.

The financial account, comprising the bulk of this component, posted a deficit of $1.418 billion, which is 32.3 percent lower than last year's $2.094 billion. The financial account consists of direct investments, portfolio investments, and foreign borrowings and deposits.

Buenaventura noted that portfolio investments that were infused into the country in the first two months of the year amounted to $787 million. In the same period last year, capital outflow exceeded the inflow by $320 million.

The central bank, however, reported a 26.6-percent drop in foreign direct investments in the first two months of the year to $259 million from $353 million in the same months last year.

"There was an increase in non-residents' investments by 85.3 percent but this was offset by the reduction in the working funds provided by foreign parent banks to their local branches through inter-company accounts," explained Buenaventura.

The BSP chief also noted that the local banks' deposits offshore went up as they help finance their clients' import requirements and as they take an aggressive stance in investing in foreign debt instruments.

Just off the Press

Remedial Law Compendium

Volume One

Eighth Revised Edition

by

Florenz D. Regalado
Senior Associate Justice (Ret.)
Supreme Court of the Philippines

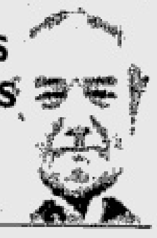
With selected decisions, new or amendatory resolutions, updated or new rules of procedure adopted by the Supreme Court, and related legislation as of December, 2001.

Published and Exclusively Distributed by

National Book Store
www.nationalbookstore.com

New broom at Quezon City

QUESTIONS OF POLICIES



Honesto C. General

QUEZON CITY Mayor Feliciano "Sonny" Belmonte Jr. is smelling like roses nowadays.

The sprawling city that Sonny now runs used to be the biggest garbage dump in the country. And I don't mean the garbage mountain at Payatas. Stinking garbage was everywhere.

Occasionally, I would drive from Makati to the Batasan and my nose knew when I was inside Quezon City limits because of the stink. At the Congressional Road leading to the Batasan, uncollected garbage was on both sidewalks and the center island. Of course, in the Batasan premises, there was a different kind of stink, but that is another story.

Late last year, I bumped into Sonny. I asked him about the garbage problem. He said, "Go around Quezon City and tell me if you see any garbage pile anywhere." I asked, "What magic wand did you use?" He said, "No magic wand. I just did whatever was the right thing to do."

I guess Sonny has been doing the right things all these years of his public career.

Sonny first burst into public view—at least into my view—when President Corazon Aquino named him president and general manager of the Government Service Insurance System (where I first met him) right after the 1986 People Power Revolution. Ravaged during the dictatorship, GSIS was technically bankrupt. All its funds—the life insurance and pension funds and the property insurance fund—were deep in the red.

Incredibly, with little experience in management and even less in insurance operations, Sonny, who was trained as a lawyer, relentlessly turned GSIS around. He did it with sheer hard work, sound horse sense and unassailable integrity. Within three years, he remitted to Malacañang P300 million in profits.

With the end of the Aquino presidency, his remarkable stint at the GSIS was over. He turned to politics. He won a seat in the House of Representatives as one of the congressmen from Quezon City. His record in Congress was outstanding, culminating as head of the congressional team that prosecuted President Estrada in the impeachment trial. I remember catching him on TV while his team was celebrating with a sing-along session. I have to say his voice was less than outstanding and Frank Sinatra's reputation is safe.

With his three straight terms in Congress over, he ran for mayor of Quezon City in the May elections last year. All these years, the mayors of our capital city were a bunch of forgettable non-entities. Quezon City never had such unforgettable characters as an Arsenio Lacson of Manila, a Baby Asistio of Caloocan or Pablo Cuneta of Pasay.

Now, Quezon City elected a mayor that the city and the country may never forget. Sonny won in a walk. As soon as he took office, he tackled the garbage problem.

In our little chat, I asked, "And how much did the garbage cleanup cost the city treasury?" He answered, "On the contrary, with a much more efficient garbage collection system, I have saved the city almost P200 million a year." After he noticed the incredulous look on my face, he added, "I did it by spending the money wisely and well."

He continues to look for ways of saving money for the city, which is not the usual way a politician looks at money.

This is why, as I said at the start, Sonny is smelling like roses nowadays. He should write a book for all the mayors to read. He should make a bundle in royalties.

Cut it Out! Cut signs like these

Serious Signs need Roland

The most reliable name in signmaking

Roland performance is proven. It's unmatched. That's why there are more Roland sign cutters in use worldwide (and in RP) than any other brand.

Talk about Return On Investment! For example, get back your full investment when you make just six 4ft. x 8ft. signs on the Roland CX–24.

Wide choice – 3 different Series and no less than 7 different models handle media from just 8.5" to 54" wide.

Unmatched affordability, too! Prices start *below* P30,000,

Fast ROI Makes Roland #1

New! Print & Cut

New PC–12 does it all! First – PRINT in CMYK at up to 2400dpi. Then – CUT your decals, labels, indoor and outdoor signange, product personalization and comps. No other brand in the Philippines does both jobs.

Exclusive Distributor
Tgraf
Total Graphic Solutions

Tel: 725–5223 • 727–7232
727–0567 • 727–3970
FAX: 723–7951
url: tgraf.com.ph
e-mail: inquire@tgraf.com.ph

UBP teams up with property firms to develop idle assets

By Doris C. Dumlao

UNION Bank of the Philippines is working out separate joint venture deals with three property companies for the development of certain non-performing assets of the bank with a combined book value of P1.2 billion to P1.8 billion.

UBP president Victor Valdepeñas told reporters at the sidelines of the UBP annual stockholders' meeting on Friday that the planned property ventures could reduce the bank's P4.8 billion worth of real and other properties owned and acquired (Ropoa) by 20-25 percent. The plan will also enable the bank to extract value from these NPAs.

"Our focus is on our non-performing assets. We are not trying to go into (land) acquisition, we are just trying to make these assets earning," Valdepeñas said.

Valdepeñas said UBP planned to finalize the joint venture agreements this year and start the property projects as soon as possible.

Instead of putting up a centralized asset management company to handle its Ropoa, as what other banks are doing, UBP's strategy is to tie up with a developer for each specific property project.

"We will provide the assets and also the in-house financing whose maturity may be stretched to about 20-30 years. We can give affordable financing at this time when interest rates are relatively low," he explained.

"We can finance the consumers. We'll provide the necessary financing to the buyers," he added.

The assets that UBP will contribute to the joint ventures are in Metro Manila and in the Calamba-Laguna-Batangas-Rizal-Quezon or Calabarzon area.

Under Philippine banking laws, a bank with a universal or expanded commercial banking license like UBP can venture into non-allied undertakings, including property development.

Amex expects RP . . .

From page B4

"In the next few months, the yen would likely be stable, in the range of 124 to 127 to the dollar. In that context, I think the peso may strengthen a little bit more. You may get to 48.50 to 49 over the next three to six months," Grice said, noting the currency could not appreciate too much because this would make the export sector less competitive.

"If we're right about the yen falling back, then the peso will fall back as well. So if you ask me where the peso will be at this time next year—May 2003—it will be nearer 50 than 49. Again, it's not a dramatic collapse but only a weakening," he said.

Grice explained that the strengthening of the Japanese yen would not last because any upswing in the world's second biggest economy was likely to be weak and would fade quickly moving on to 2003.

The economist explained that the Japanese economy was coming out of recession now because exports and the industrial sector were doing well. The key problem in Japan, though, is that the domestic economy remains very weak because the domestic structural problems remain unresolved, he noted.

"Because of that, we see the yen falling back against the US dollar. Over the next few months, the yen will stay roughly where it is now, the 124-127 level against the US dollar. I think the Bank of Japan will continue to intervene to stop the yen from strengthening any further.

"As we move in 2003, I think the yen will weaken because Japan's economic recovery is built on sand. It's really just down to the external sector and that's all. About this time next year, we think that then yen will be back to the 130-140 area," he said.

On the structural challenges to the Philippines, Grice said the government must move to reduce the high ratio of public debt to GDP as well as speed up the pace of corporate restructuring.

He expressed concern that the country's 90-percent public debt-to-GDP ratio was higher than the 50-60 percent acceptable level for developing countries.

"It is, of course, not the fault of the present government but of the previous administrations. But it's a legacy that the government has to contend with," he said. "It's really about fiscal reform, boosting tax reforms, boosting tax revenues. If you get the debt-to-GDP down, that means that over the long term, interest rates can come down and if interest rates come down, domestic investments will pick up."

At the moment, he said, the Philippines' economic growth of 4-5 percent still could not be achieved on a medium- to long-term basis. Instead, he said only an annual growth of 3-4 percent seemed to be attainable. To boost growth, he said there must be fast structural reforms and more reforms on the fiscal side.

It is likewise important for the government to meet its budget deficit targets in order to send positive signals to investors following the P8-billion overshooting of the deficit cap for the first quarter, he stressed.

"I don't think the budget deficit overrun was a disaster because it's helping the economy at a time that the economy is quite weak. But I do think it's important because the government did quite well in 2001 in terms of meeting fiscal targets and that boosted investor sentiment toward Philippine assets. I think it's quite important that for what remains in the rest of the year, the government must bring back the budget deficit back on target," he said.

OFW bond float eyed

By Elena R. Torrijos

THE GOVERNMENT is looking at issuing bonds catering to overseas Filipino workers, Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho said in an interview in Tokyo last week.

Camacho said National Treasurer Sergio Edeza was studying the feasibility of issuing the bonds although no amount has been recommended as of yet.

He explained that the proposed debt issue was "designed to provide investment opportunities at the retail level to the OFWs."

An industry source said that the government would tap HSBC, Land Bank of the Philippines and First Metro Investments to underwrite the issue.

Camacho was in Tokyo to woo Japanese banks Mizuho and UFJ to invest in future debt issues of the government, including that of state-owned National Power Corp. He also asked Japan's Vice finance minister to smooth the way for Japan Bank for International Cooperation to provide a guarantee on the government's borrowings, which may include that of Napocor.

He said that, from time to time, the government would be tapping the yen bond market.

In an interview a week ago, a finance official said that either Napocor or the government would do a borrowing of at least $500 million to cover the power firm's financing requirements.

The Asian Development Bank has agreed to partially guarantee the proposed borrowing.

Last week, the government, the Asian Development Bank and the Power Sector Asset and Liabilities Corp. jointly sent a request for proposals to meeting Napocor's funding requirements.

Camacho said that the government would still have to decide based on the proposals whether Napocor or the national government should be the borrowing entity.

INVESTING MADE EASY

We hear a lot of stories and watch a lot of movies about people who hit it big in the securities market. They make it sound so easy, when in fact, there are so many complexities and nuances involved. You may have thought of delving into the market at one time or another, but when you realize how daunting it is, the interest in investing simply fades away. Thus, you just fall back to traditional modes of saving, which provides adequate returns on your investment but doesn't fully maximize the interest-earning potential of your hard-earned money.

The idea of doing well in the bond or equity market is not that far-fetched. However, getting into them without the proper background may leave you at the losing end. How then can you enter and do well in the securities market without the hassles involved?

Sun Life Financial has answered this question for you. Two years ago, this world-renowned company with expertise in wealth management launched the Sun Life Prosperity Funds. With the Sun Life Prosperity Funds, you are provided an easy and affordable gateway to the income-generating world of stocks and bonds.

When you invest in the Sun Life Prosperity Funds, you are actually investing in mutual funds. In mutual funds, your investment along with money gathered from various investors, are pooled and invested in the equities market, the bond market or both. Depending on your investment objectives, time horizon and risk tolerance, you can either choose to invest in the Sun Life Prosperity Philippine Equity Fund, which invests primarily in stocks, or the Sun Life Prosperity Bond Fund, where investments are made solely in fixed income instruments. Should you wish to invest in both bonds and stocks but do not have the expertise, time, or patience to allocate your money between the two types of assets, you can simply invest in the Sun Life Prosperity Balanced Fund.

What's interesting with the Sun Life Prosperity Funds is that it does not only make your entry in the securities market easy but affordable as well. With a minimal initial investment of P10,000, you already get to own a wide range of securities which you may not have been able to afford and assemble on your own.

Diversification is a proven strategy to reduce the effects of volatility on your investment. And that's what you will get if you invest in the Sun Life Prosperity Funds. The portfolio of securities you will own upon investing in the Sun Life Prosperity Funds is highly diversified that they neutralize effects of the ups and downs of the securities market.

Moreover, unlike traditional modes of saving, earnings in the Sun Life Prosperity Funds are not pegged to a certain rate over a period of time. This allows you to take advantage of the potential to earn more than the traditional fixed-income instruments. Hence, with the Sun Life Prosperity Funds, you actually make your money work harder for you.

Aside from the potential to earn more, you are also assured that your investment is managed by seasoned Investment Managers, most of whom are Chartered Financial Analysts, who handle the day-to-day affairs of fund management. These professionals have the research capabilities, skills, and knowledge that allow them to decide what is best for the fund and thus meet the investment objectives of your portfolio in all economic conditions. In addition, a call center is also provided so you can easily monitor your investment.

You can also withdraw from your investment on any business day. And because your investment objectives may change over time, you can just transfer from one fund to another as much as four times a year, free of charge.

With all these advantages, investing in the securities market is not as daunting as it may seem at first. In fact, with the Sun Life Prosperity Funds, investing ease, convenience, and the potential to earn more is well within your grasp.

So take that first step in the world of income-generating securities. Call your Sun Life Mutual Fund Representatives now at 849-9999.

ADVT

NOTICE OF TRANSFER

BAYAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. (BAYANTEL), formerly holding office at the Benpres Building, Exchange Road corner Meralco Avenue, Ortigas Complex, Pasig City, has moved to its new office at the following address:

BayanTel Corporate Center
Maginhawa corner Malingap Streets
Teachers' Village, Diliman, Quezon City

Trunkline 449-3000

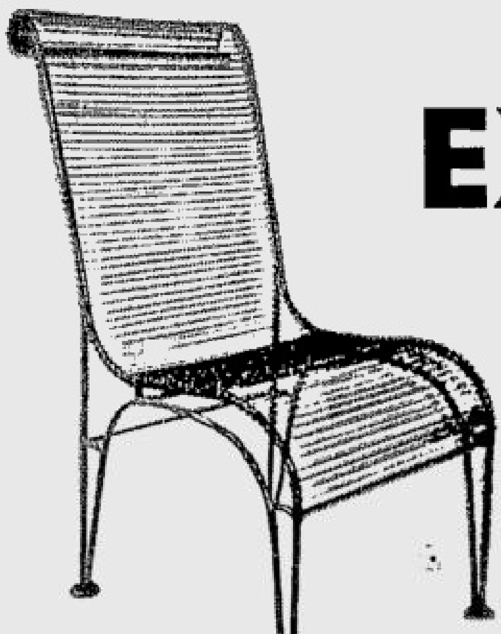
BAYANTEL
BETTER THAN EVER

TOSHIBA
MULTIMEDIA PROJECTOR
SMALL but POWERFUL

- Powerful **2,400 ANSI** Lumens. True XGA(1024 X 768).
- **Built-in Document Camera**
- **5-in-1** outstanding features
  - ☑ multimedia projector
  - ☑ digital camera
  - ☑ visual presenter
  - ☑ opaque projector
  - ☑ overhead projector
- **Built-in PCMCIA card slot** for PC-less presentation
- On screen **Picture-in-Picture**
- With **built-in Digital Keystone Corrector.**
- **Capture and save** document images, catalogs and 3D images.

Exclusively Distributed by:
PRESENTATION Solution CENTER
181 RJ Fernandez St.,
San Juan, Metro Manila
Tel. nos.: 727-6973, 723-6138,
723-1356 Telefax: 723-6890

HIGH RESOLUTION DOCUMENT CAMERA
NEW
TLP-X21
2400 ANSI True XGA
SALES RENTALS SERVICE



ATTENTION:
EXPORTERS

Only 1 company
has the most complete line
of Metal Finishing Technology -

CHROME DAZZLER
SINCE 1962

QUALITY METAL FINISHING FOR FURNITURE,
APPLIANCES, MOTORCYCLES, CARS
AND OTHER METAL PRODUCTS.

POWDER COATING / ZINC CHROMATE / DECO CHROME / POLISHING
PLATING AND SPECIAL METAL FABRICATION

SALES CENTER
67 P. TUAZON BLVD., CUBAO, QUEZON CITY
415-9381/410-4858/410-4867/410-4866/725-3510/415-9375

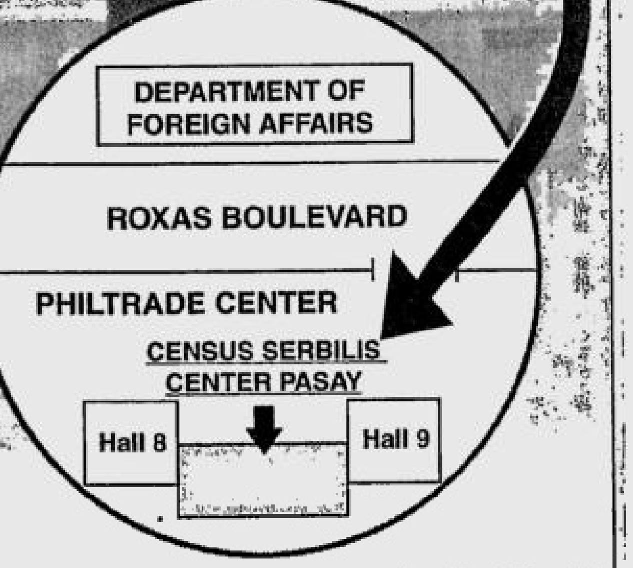
Handa na rin namin kayong pagsilbihan sa ...

Census Serbilis Center
Pasay City

Census Serbilis Center
Pasay City

Bukas na upang magserbisyo sa inyo para sa pagkuha ng kopya ng mga birth, marriage at death certificates.

Tayo na sa Serbilis Center - Pasay!
BIRTH CERTIFICATE



Matatagpuan sa gitna ng Halls 8 at 9, Philtrade Center
(Sa tapat ng Department of Foreign Affairs Building)
Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City

IBA PANG MGA CENSUS SERBILIS CENTERS:

Caloocan City
Caloocan City Hall
(Across the MTC)
Mabini St., Caloocan City
East Avenue
East Avenue, Quezon City
Makati City
3/F New Building
Makati City Hall
J.P. Rizal St.,
Makati City
Muntinlupa City
G/F Annex Bldg.
Muntinlupa City Hall
Putatan, Muntinlupa City

Pasig City
G/F Pasig City Hall, Pasig City
San Fernando, La Union (May 16)
3/F Florentino Bldg., Gen. Luna St.
San Fernando, La Union
San Fernando, Pampanga
2/F A&A Bldg., Km 73
MacArthur Highway
Maimpis, SF, Pampanga
Cebu City
Capuras Bldg., Sanciangco St.
Cebu City
Iloilo City
G/F Villanueva Bldg.
J.M. Basa corner Rizal Sts.
Iloilo City
Cagayan de Oro City
3/F Lantoria Bldg.
#77 Julio Pacana St.
Cagayan de Oro City
Davao City
2/F Mintrade Bldg.
F. Bangoy cor. Monteverde Sts.
Davao City

NSO-CRS
THE NSO-CRS PROJECT IS A PARTNERSHIP OF
National Statistics Office and UNISYS

RP animators move to woo international market

PEOPLE around the world love "Scooby Doo," "Dragonball Z" or "Captain Planet," but little do they know that the animators behind these programs are Filipinos.

Foreign producers will now be able to witness the spectacular and colorful works of Filipino animators whose creative skills and talents are behind some of the world's well-loved cartoon series.

The Philippines will participate for the first time in the MIFA Expo, the biggest international market devoted to animation, to be held in conjunction with the 26th Annecy International festival of Animation in France on June 3 to 8, 2002.

Cartoon delegates

The companies that will form part of the Philippine delegation, according to the Center of International Trade and Expositions and Missions (Citem), are the Animation Council of the Philippines, Artfarm Asia, Fil-Cartoons Inc., Holy Cow! Animation Inc., Philippine Animation Studio Inc. (Pasi) and Quanxi Communications Inc.

Citem executive director Felicidad Tan-Co says the country is sending a delegation to this event to promote Philippine animation companies as premier out-sourcing services providers of animation in Asia.

Priority areas

The Department of Trade and Industry has identified animation as one of the five priority sectors in e-services.

"The government will help local animation companies forge strategic alliances with leading animation studios in the United States, Canada and Australia through focused marketing and promotions," Tan-Co says.

Foreign studios can save as much as 40 percent if they subcontract their requirements to Philippine animators. Animation production is highly labor-intensive and requires between 20,000 and 50,000 drawings per animated series.

Cheaper

"It is even 80 percent cheaper compared with the production costs of big US animation companies like Walt Disney," says Frank Saperstein, creative director of Pasi.

A commercial half-hour animated show that runs for about 22 minutes can cost as much as $500,000 in North America and $350,000 in Europe.

"Although another Asian country may offer lower rates, it takes them about a month to produce a 22-minute animation episode. Philippine animators can produce it in three days," Saperstein says.

The Philippine rate is said to be lower compared with the rates in other countries such as Australia, Canada, Japan, Germany, United Kingdom and the United States.

In the Philippines, the equivalent subcontracting rate ranges from a low of $40,000 for limited 2D animation to a high of $300,000 for full animation.

"The continued growth of animated films and the surge in animation around the world only mean more opportunities for the Philippine animators," according to Tan-Co.

Preferring RP animators

Although neighboring Asian countries have recently posed serious challenges with lower rates, Tan-Co points out that many foreign studios still prefer to work with Philippine animation companies because of the creativity of Filipino animators and their understanding of the western culture.

Pasi studio manager Mimbi Eloriaga agrees, "Our prices may be higher, but quality is our edge."

Saperstein says advertising revenues in the US market are presently down, so companies are forced to outsource their requirements to save on costs.

"Prices in China are cheaper. We have to convince foreign companies that Filipino animation companies are better," he added. "Developing long-term relationships with foreign companies is very important."

Steady growth

Tan-Co stresses that one-third of the world population are below 18 years old, which means demand for cartoons, video games and other animation-related products will grow at a steady rate with a big client base worldwide.

"Animation is not only for entertainment. It is also utilized as an effective tool for advertising, web and education," Tan-Co says.

Philippine exports of animation is projected to reach $26 million this year, a 25-percent increase from $21 million registered in 2001.

More aggresive

Marlyn Montano, managing director of Holy Cow! Animation, says it is about time that Filipino animation companies become more aggressive in its campaign.

"We all feel that Annecy is a good venue to establish good relationship with prospective American and European clients. We would like to show what the Philippine animation industry is capable of doing," Montano says.

Three of the participants have done works for prestigious and famous entertainment companies. The Animation Council of the Philippines has worked for Disney, Warner Brothers, Cartoon Network, HBO, Marvel and Japanese animé firms.

Fil-Cartoons Inc., a former subsidiary of Hanna-Barbera, has animated over 950 shows for clients based in France, England, Germany, Canada, Australia and the United States. Their projects include "Addams Family," "The Mask," "Tom & Jerry," "Scooby Doo" and "The Jetsons."

Classic
LIFEBOOK

THE POSSIBILITIES ARE INFINITE FUJITSU

LIFEBOOK B-2562
• Mobile Intel® Pentium®III processor 700MHz - M supporting Enhanced Intel® SpeedStep™ technology (Ultra Low Voltage) • 256MB SDRAM • 20GB HDD • 10.4" XGA TFT (Touch Screen) • V.90 modem & 10/100Mbps LAN • Bluetooth™ PCMCIA Option • Ext FDD (USB Type) & Port Replicator • Microsoft® Windows® XP Home • Weighs approx. 1.4kg

LIFEBOOK S-5582
• Mobile Intel® Pentium®III processor 800MHz - M supporting Enhanced Intel® SpeedStep™ technology (Low Voltage) • 256MB SDRAM • 30/20GB HDD • 13.3" XGA TFT • V.90 modem &10/100Mbps LAN • Bluetooth™ PCMCIA Option • Port Replicator • Combo Drive (DVD & CD-R/RW) / DVD Drive & Ext. USB FDD • Microsoft ® Windows ® XP Home • Weighs approx.1.7kg (with an optional weight saver)

LIFEBOOK C-7651
• Mobile Intel® Pentium®III processor 1.13GHz - M supporting Enhanced Intel® • SpeedStep™ technology • 256MB SDRAM • 20GB HDD • 15" XGA TFT • 8MB VRAM • DVD drive FDD • V.90 modem & 10/100Mbps LAN • Bluetooth™ PCMCIA Option • Microsoft ®Windows ®XP Home Weighs Approx. 3.3kg

LIFEBOOK E-6666
• Mobile Intel® Pentium®III processor 1.2GHz - M supporting Enhanced Intel® SpeedStep™ technology • 512MB SDRAM • 30GB HDD • 14.1" Super XGA + TFT • 16MB VRAM • V.90 modem &10/100Mbps LAN • Bluetooth ™ PCMCIA Option • Combo Drive (DVD & CD-R/RW) • Approx. 3.5 hrs.* • Security Panel (for security lock and application launch) • Microsoft® Windows® XP Home • Weighs approx. 2.65kg (with an optional weight saver)

Fujitsu PCs use genuine Windows® Operating Systems
www.microsoft.com/piracy/howtotell

* Actual battery life may vary depending on use, configuration and system load.

Fujitsu Philippines, Inc.
Tel: 8948557 E-mail: fujitsupc@fujitsu.com.ph Website: www.fujitsu.com.ph

For C series contact:
Authorized Distributor:
AXIS DISTRIBUTION INC. • Emerald Ave. Pasig • Tel: 6379991-95
Authorized Dealers:
THE COMPUTER AUTHORITY: • Parksquare 1 Makati • Tel: 8106766/8105090 • Virramall Greenhills • Tel: 7210957 7211012
• SM Megamall • Tel: 6331594/6342437 • Sta. Lucia East Grandmall • Tel: 6817334-35
• Shangri-La Plaza • Tel: 6374162-63 • Festival Supermall • Tel: 8503709-11
VILLMAN COMPUTER SYSTEMS, INC: • Ayala Ave. Makati • Tel: 8922222/8936935-41
• West Ave. Q.C. • Tel: 3739872-76

intel inside pentium III

Intel, the Intel Inside Logo, Pentium and Intel SpeedStep are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intel Corporation or its subsidiaries in the United States and other countries. Microsoft and Windows are either registered trademarks or trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and/or other countries. Bluetooth is a trademark owned by its proprietor and used by Fujitsu under license.

5 Philpesta members vie for PSTC stake

By Ronnel W. Domingo

AT LEAST five members of the Philippine Petroleum Sea Transport Association are vying for a strategic stake in state-owned Philippine Shipping and Transport Corp., which Philpesta earlier wanted to shut down.

PSTC, a subsidiary of Philippine National Oil Co., said Thursday the five comprised half of the number of companies that signified interest to be PSTC's partner.

"We prefer an equity stake from a partner," PSTC president Cesar Tapia said.

Tapia explained that PSTC planned to sell 60 percent of the firm following the Petron Corp.'s privatization process.

PNOC sold a 40-percent stake to Saudi Aramco, retained 40 percent and listed the remaining 20 percent in the stock exchange.

Tapia said in April that four foreign firms "with extensive global operations" were also eyeing a stake in PSTC.

He did not say on Thursday whether these firms were included in the 10 that have signified interest.

"Other interested investors can still submit their documents until the end of May," he said. "We expect to come up with recommendations to the PNOC board by next month."

PSTC was scheduled for privatization in 1994 through an asset sale, but the bidding failed.

The state firm opted for a joint venture with a strategic partner in 1997, but this also failed as PSTC was losing money then.

The official reiterated that PSTC's privatization was shelved due to unfavorable economic conditions.

He noted that investors would want PSTC only after it modernized its aging fleet and improved its profitability.

Tapia said that on the average, PSTC's four ships were 18 years old while the industry standard is less than 10 years.

The firm's business is concentrated on hauling fuels across Manila Bay, particularly products for the country's oil refiners.

In January, Philpesta demanded for the government to "wind down the operations" of, if not privatize, PSTC.

Philpesta said the continued operation of PSTC was in conflict with the administration's policy not to compete with private firms in business.

Cocktales

From page B3

ery van from Palayan Lamps.

What has aggravated the situation is that Dragon has posted a security guard right on the Arenas house, stopping even telephone linemen and electricians from entering the property. In addition to the proposed quarters, Arenas is renovating the house on Pili.

Arenas and the FPA board, incidentally headed by Felipe Yap and Policarpo Ascalon also of the strife-bound Manila Polo Club, held a make-or-break meeting last Friday.

The dispute having dragged on for nine months now, expect a major lawsuit if the two parties still fail to reach an agreement.

Heard through the grapevine

AND speaking of Rosemarie "Baby" Arenas, the occasional impresario has all but wrapped up negotiations to bring Andrea Bocelli to the country in September, the first concert for the famed Italian tenor in Southeast Asia.

Dubbed the "fourth tenor," Bocelli has lined up at least one Pilipino song in his repertoire when he performs at the Philippine International Convention Center.

The Mandarin has been designated as the artist's official residence while in Manila.

(Cocktales may be reached by e-mail at cocktales_pdi@yahoo.com or at cocktales_pdi@hotmail.com.)

JAPAN'S mobile communication giant NTT DoCoMo employee Hitomi Suzuki displays a prototype model of a TV phone that can receive digital broadcasting programs on its handy body during an annual business show in Tokyo. NTT DoCoMo is expecting to launch this service next year. AFP

New world ad group chief pledges to boost business

BEIRUT—The annual World Congress of the International Advertising Agency closed here with a new president vowing to boost world advertising activities.

"I want to help increase advertising revenues. I intend to travel around to promote advertising," Lebanese Jean Claude Boulos, who was officially named IAA president for a two-year term during the three-day event, told AFP.

"Advertising has suffered from the repercussions of the Sept. 11 (attacks on the United States), the world economic downturn, the e-commerce difficulties, the closing down of many big firms and airlines," he explained.

Boulos, the third Lebanese to be elected as head of the IAA, said the event was a "great success, and prominent participants from Europe and the US have congratulated us for the conference."

"We had expected attendance to reach 1,200 but I suppose because of Sept. 11 and the conflict between the Israelis and the Palestinians, it was a bit less," he said.

"We had a participation of over 900 people from 42 countries, which we consider as being very good," said Boulos.

Boulos said his goal was also "to increase advertising activities in the Arab world, which represents only 3 percent of the world's advertising market."

"The Arab market share is very small. We need to boost activities, and we can achieve that by presenting the Arab world as one big market, since we have cultural similarities and we speak the same language," he said.

During the conference, Carlos Ghosn, chief executive and president of Japan's Nissan Motor Co. Ltd. and who is due to be the director general of French carmaker Renault from the spring of 2005, was named marketer of the year.

Ghosn, born in Brazil and with French nationality, has been received here with a hero's welcome as he is of Lebanese origins.

His rise to fame came after he brought the Japanese carmaker from bankruptcy to profitabilty. *AFP*

Tobacco industry spend more than ever on ads

WASHINGTON—Tobacco companies are spending more than ever on advertising and promotion, despite court-imposed restrictions, the government said Friday.

Increasingly, they are using instore promotions—paying owners for prime shelf space and offering giveaways—to sell their products, a Federal Trade Commission report found.

The industry spent $9.5 billion on advertising and promotions in 2000, the last year for which such figures were available. The total was 16 percent greater than the previous year's.

Cigarette manufacturers in 1998 reached a $206-billion settlement with 46 states. The agreement banned cigarette advertising on billboards and public transportation. It also curtailed giveaways of branded merchandise, such as hats with logos, and cigarette samples, and it limited the number of public events such as auto races that companies could sponsor.

Cigarette ads have been banned from television and radio under federal law since 1971.

"What this report shows is that when the tobacco industry was required to curtail certain forms of advertising as a result of the 1998 settlement, it simply moved its marketing dollars to other places and increased its spending," said Matthew Myers, president of the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids.

But Mike Pfeil, a spokesperson for Philip Morris USA, said the settlement led to important changes in the way cigarettes are advertised. *AP*

Lexus ES 300, Camry come off best in low-speed bumper tests

ARLINGTON, Virginia—Toyota's Lexus ES 300 and Camry came out top of a field of nine midsized cars in low-speed bumper crash tests, while Jaguar's sporty X-type sedan trailed in last, a survey released Friday said.

The two Toyota models—its luxury Lexus four-door sedan and sister Camry saloon—fared better because of an energy-absorbing steel insert in the middle of the foam bumpers, according to the research institute that did the tests.

The Lexus sustained an average $458 worth of damage on each of four 5-mph (8-kph) rear collisions, while the Camry came in second with an average of $527.

That performance was deemed "acceptable," by the Virginia-based Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, a research organization funded by insurance companies, which rated the other seven 2002 models either "marginal" or "poor."

Honda's Acura TL and the Nissan Altima were rated borderline with $654 and $775 worth of damage, respectively.

But the Institute reserved its harshest criticism for Ford's Jaguar X-type sporty sedan that sustained an average $1,693 worth of damage on each test, earning it a "poor" rating.

In particular, it criticized the $30,000 Jag for flubbing what should have been a routine test (a 5-mile-per-hour rear collision with a flat barrier), which would have cost more than $1,000 to put right. *AFP*

Budget Japan: Top tips to getting a cheaper holiday

TOKYO—Japan on a shoestring? Well, not exactly, Japan is still a country where a melon can cost 5,000 yen ($40), but with a bit of imagination, fans visiting Japan for the World Cup finals can eat, sleep and travel here without mortgaging their homes.

The cost of one night in a standard western-style hotel can set you back anything from 15,000 yen to 50,000 yen, unthinkable for most spending a week or two watching the tournament, on top of the cost of the flight and match tickets.

But there is a host of cheap alternatives, including "business hotels." For as little as 5,000 yen a night in provincial cities you can get a tiny room with minimal comforts, but at least they are usually close to the station.

While it costs a small fortune at traditional Japanese ryokans for the privilege of sleeping on a mattress on a tatami straw floor, albeit with excellent, discreet service and high-class cuisine, you can get a taste of the same hospitality for much less.

Rates at family-run minshukus (bed and breakfast pensions) start from as little as 7,000 yen per person per night with breakfast and dinner included.

For much the same price, the more adventurous could try spending the night in a Buddhist temple, although this option is not available everywhere.

Love hotel

If zen spiritualism is not for you, maybe the worldly attraction of a "love hotel" is.

While not hotels in the conventional sense of the word, they do admit overnight stays, but only after 10:30 p.m. or 11 p.m., when the "by-the-hour" clients have checked out.

From around 6,000 yen upwards you can be assured of a much bigger bed and bathroom than in a business hotel, as well as more exotic decor but don't expect to be able to bring luggage (leave it in a station locker) or hold onto the room beyond 10 a.m. the next morning.

For those who really have to economize, the best option might be the "capuseru hoteru" (capsule hotel).

A mere 3,000 yen or so will let you sleep inside a plastic sarcophagus the size of a single bed, complete with mini-television, air-conditioning, clock-radio, 'yukata' (bathrobe), toothbrush and razor.

Privacy from the hundreds of other cells in the capsule hive is provided by a curtain.

If you are claustrophobic or really hard up, an even cheaper deal is to hunker down in an armchair, resembling a reclining seat on a first class airline, in the hotel lounge with a pillow and blanket. Cost: a distinctly economy class 1,500 yen.

Capsule hotels, found all over Japan, are spotlessly clean and offer a variety of extra services including massage, sauna and snacks, but most do not admit women, although many are "twinned" with budget hotels.

Foreigners not welcome

Possibly the best deal in any big city in Japan is the New Azuma, a completely refurbished former day-workers' hostel in Tokyo's down-at-heel Sanya district, where a room costs 2,700 yen a night or 15,400 yen a week.

Unfortunately, foreigners are not always welcome in smaller hotels, often because of concerns about cultural misunderstandings or fears about reported hooliganism.

"We have often seen drunk foreigners causing a disturbance around our neighborhood. That kind of behavior only gives us the impression of cultural differences and we don't feel up to welcoming them," said Shuichi Suzuki, manager of the 2,800-yen-a-night Kiraku hotel, which is close to the Yokohama stadium where the World Cup final will be staged on June 30.

Aside from finding an affordable place to stay, the other preoccupation for foreign fans will be finding something to eat.

Food is cheap

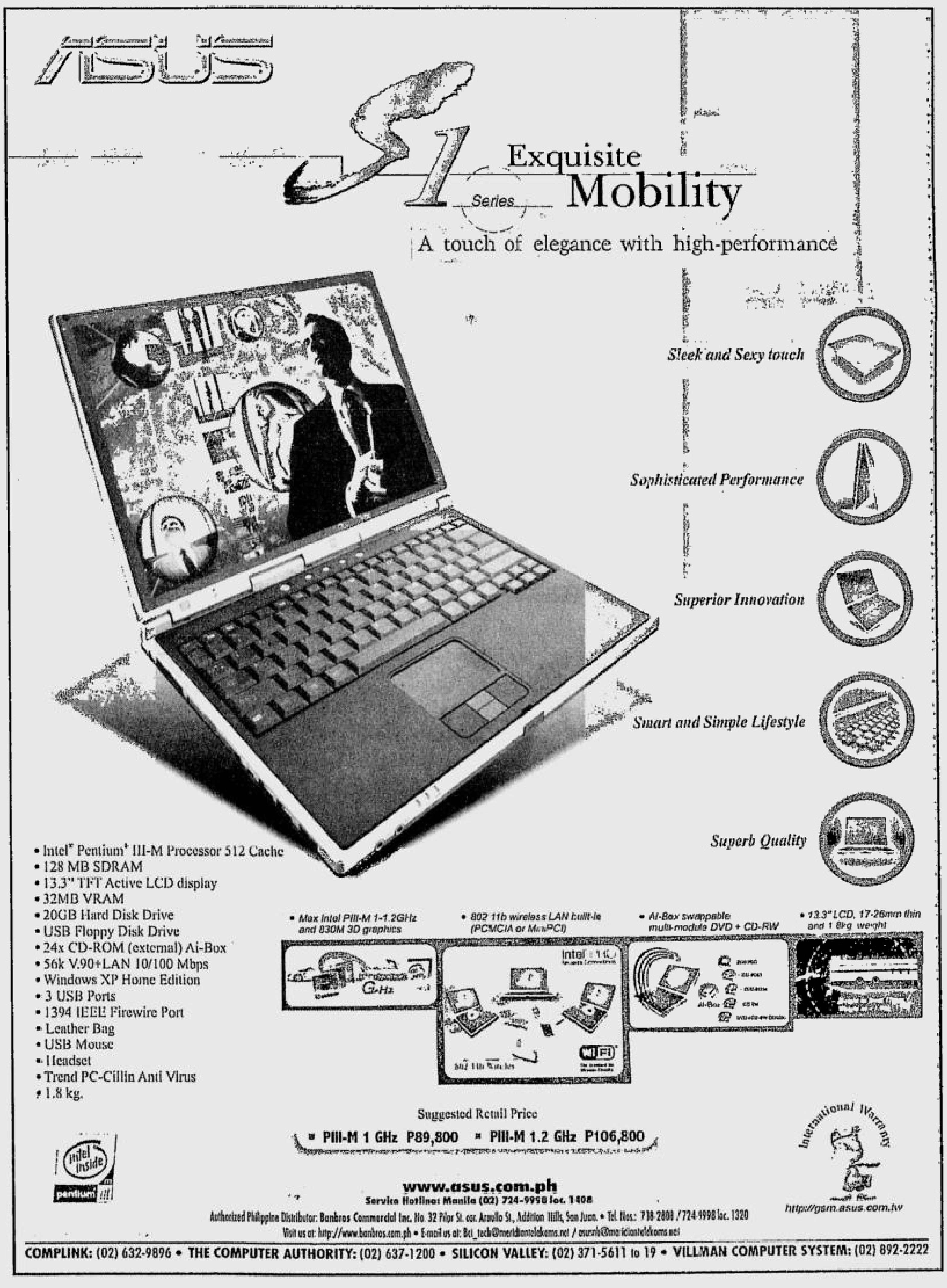
Food in Japan is surprisingly cheap with its wealth of homegrown fast foods such as "bento" lunch boxes, ramen noodles and kaiten (conveyor belt) sushi chains all making a full stomach a reality for 1,000 yen or less.

Otherwise, cheeseburgers cost around 220 yen, a bowl of "gyudon" sliced boiled beef and onions on rice 280 yen from the ubiquitous Yoshinoya chain and for the really hard up, a dehydrated pot noodles cost 150 to 300 yen from a convenience store.

For those with a rather more discerning palate, many restaurants offer bargain-priced set meals at lunchtime priced from 800 to 3,000 yen.

In the evenings, when prices increase sharply, the best bets are the izakayas (pubs) with their loud, cheerful atmosphere and photo menus of a wide range of western and Asian dishes priced between 300 and 700 yen.

At foodstalls or "yatais" set up on the pavement or under the railway arches, you can eat a few yakitori (barbecued chicken on skewers) washed down with a beer for around 1,000 yen. *AFP*

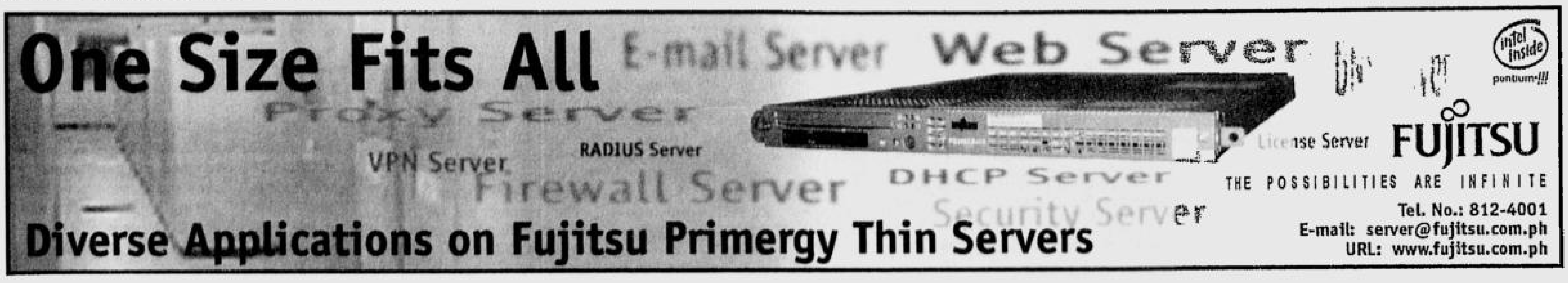


ASUS
S1 Series Exquisite Mobility
A touch of elegance with high-performance
Sleek and Sexy touch
Sophisticated Performance
Superior Innovation
Smart and Simple Lifestyle
Superb Quality
- Intel® Pentium® III-M Processor 512 Cache
- 128 MB SDRAM
- 13.3" TFT Active LCD display
- 32MB VRAM
- 20GB Hard Disk Drive
- USB Floppy Disk Drive
- 24x CD-ROM (external) Ai-Box
- 56k V.90+LAN 10/100 Mbps
- Windows XP Home Edition
- 3 USB Ports
- 1394 IEEE Firewire Port
- Leather Bag
- USB Mouse
- Headset
- Trend PC-Cillin Anti Virus
- 1.8 kg.

- Max Intel PIII-M 1-1.2GHz and 830M 3D graphics
- 802 11b wireless LAN built-in (PCMCIA or MiniPCI)
- Ai-Box swappable multi-module DVD + CD-RW
- 13.3" LCD, 17-26mm thin and 1 8kg weight

Suggested Retail Price
- PIII-M 1 GHz P89,800
- PIII-M 1.2 GHz P106,800

International Warranty
http://gsm.asus.com.tw
www.asus.com.ph
Service Hotline: Manila (02) 724-9998 loc. 1408
Authorized Philippine Distributor: Banbros Commercial Inc. No. 32 Pilar St. cor. Araullo St., Addition Hills, San Juan. • Tel. Nos.: 718-2808 / 724-9998 loc. 1320
Visit us at: http://www.banbros.com.ph • E-mail us at: Bci_tech@meridiantelekoms.net / asusnb@meridiantelekoms.net
COMPLINK: (02) 632-9896 • THE COMPUTER AUTHORITY: (02) 637-1200 • SILICON VALLEY: (02) 371-5611 to 19 • VILLMAN COMPUTER SYSTEM: (02) 892-2222



One Size Fits All
E-mail Server Web Server Proxy Server RADIUS Server VPN Server Firewall Server DHCP Server Security Server License Server
Diverse Applications on Fujitsu Primergy Thin Servers
FUJITSU
THE POSSIBILITIES ARE INFINITE
Tel. No.: 812-4001
E-mail: server@fujitsu.com.ph
URL: www.fujitsu.com.ph

Strong first-quarter US growth masks weaknesses

WASHINGTON—The US economy bolted ahead at its fastest pace in nearly two years in the first quarter, but the rise was not quite as rapid as initially thought, the government said on Friday in a report that showed weaker consumer and business spending than first estimated.

Gross domestic product, a measure of the goods and services produced within a country's borders, raced forward at a revised 5.6-percent annual rate in the first three months of the year, the Commerce Department said.

The number reflected an economy climbing smartly out of recession, although it was a downward revision from the 5.8-percent gain the department reported a month ago and came as a surprise on Wall Street, where economists had expected a revision upward to 6 percent.

In addition, the report's details suggested the economy was fundamentally weaker than the heady pace of GDP growth would suggest at first blush. The figures on consumer and business spending were revised down and more of the growth reflected a slowdown in the rate at which businesses reduced inventories.

"When you look at the details, the economy has not picked up anything like what the overall GDP number implies," said Jim O'Sullivan, a senior economist at UBS Warburg.

The report bolstered the widely held view that the Federal Reserve would bide its time before deciding to raise its benchmark interest rate from a 40-year low of 1.75 percent to give the economy more time to gain solid footing.

Still, other recent reports, including a separate report on Friday on sales of new homes, suggested the economy was already on firmer ground.

The department said new home sales rose one percent in April to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 915,000 units, the fastest sales pace in a year.

Other signs the recovery is gaining traction include a solid advance in retail sales in April, rising industrial production, and an increase in orders for long-lasting manufactured goods in April that offered a hint a long downturn in business investment may be easing.

The weaker-than-expected GDP report weighed on US stock prices and the dollar while giving a boost to US Treasury securities, which later reversed course on the strong housing report.

The department said consumer spending advanced at a 3.2-percent pace in the first quarter—still solid, but not as strong as the 3.5-percent increase first reported. *Reuters*

PEOPLE enjoy water activities in a lake with the Petronas Twin Towers, the highest building in the world, as a background in Kuala Lumpur. Malaysia's economic recovery is on track, with gross domestic product rebounding from two quarters of contraction to expand 1.1 percent in the quarter to March. AFP

Wall Street becomes less of a family affair

NEW YORK—Short of losing millions of dollars on a big trade, marrying a co-worker is the easiest way to jeopardize your job at Wall Street firm Bear Stearns Cos. Inc.

Bear Stearns, which was founded in 1923, doesn't allow any relatives—sons, daughters, even husbands and wives—to work at the 10,300-staff firm. That means if two co-workers find love and marry, one of them has to find a new job. The employees themselves decide who will head for the door.

"That policy came out of the fact that Bear Stearns always wanted to be a meritocracy and a place where you were judged by your actions and your achievements, rather than by any kind of connection to anyone," a company spokesperson said.

Bear Stearns' former chair, Alan "Ace" Greenberg, coined the term "P.S.D." to describe his favored type of recruit: Poor, Smart and a Desire to be rich. The firm's chief executive, James Cayne, started his career selling scrap metal in Chicago.

Wall Street, long viewed as a hotbed of cronyism and connections, has become less of a family affair. Job seekers better have a knack for making money, rather than a distinguished pedigree. The reason: Many formerly private partnerships now have to answer to shareholders. After a period of incredible industry growth in hiring in the 1990s, the increasingly cost-conscious industry needs to justify every hire in the current bear market.

"The larger a company is, the less likely it is that they would allow anything to occur that might be construed as being a function of nepotism," said Scott George, managing director of Ernst & Young's mergers and acquisitions group.

To be sure, there are plenty of securities companies that still are dominated by families. Bernie Madoff founded trading firm Bernard L. Madoff Investment Securities in 1960 and runs it with his brother and two sons.

"There are certain political issues that you have to deal with, there are certain personality issues that you have to deal with," Madoff told Reuters. "But if you work at it, it can work." *Reuters*

Nasdaq imposes tougher guidelines on member firms

NEW YORK—The Nasdaq Stock Market issued tougher corporate governance guidelines on Friday for its 4,000-plus member companies, including clarifying that a company could get de-listed for misrepresenting information.

"This is part of a process that is far from over," said Wick Simmons, Nasdaq chair and chief executive, in a statement.

The new rules also require companies to tell the public if an audit report questions its ability to continue as a going concern.

The rule "requires that a going concern qualification should be brought to the attention of investors and potential investors through a press release," the statement said.

The announcement follows countless reports in recent months of US companies getting investigated for dubious accounting and other practices.

Also, the revisions "tighten" the definition of independent director, require related-party transactions be approved by an audit committee or comparable entity, and allow companies to disseminate certain types of information via means other than press releases. *AFP*

Nextel's international unit files for bankruptcy court protection

NEW YORK—The international unit of cell phone company Nextel Communications filed for bankruptcy court protection on Friday, detailing an agreement with lenders to reduce its debt by 80 percent.

NII Holdings, which mostly provides wireless services in Latin America, said the proposed reorganization would reduce the company's debt load from $2.7 billion to less than $500 million.

Nextel has agreed to contribute up to $65 million in new capital to NII, while a consortium of NII bondholders will provide at least $75 million.

In addition, Nextel will give NII $50 million in new funding as part of an existing arrangement under which the companies share wireless spectrum in Mexico and the United States.

The agreement also includes a deferral of the principal payments under a loan agreement with Motorola Credit Corp.

As part of the reorganization, Nextel's stake in NII will be reduced from more than 95 percent to less than 50 percent, with most of the equity transferred to NII bondholders.

Nextel, which earlier this year wrote off more than $1.7 billion in debt it was owed by NII, had warned in its latest quarterly earnings report that NII might be forced to seek bankruptcy protection.

NII, originally known as Nextel International, has operations in Mexico, Brazil, Peru, Argentina, Chile and the Philippines.

Beer makers try to chill new competition

NEW YORK—Summer may be the time to sit back and chill with a cold beer, but this year, more new brews and malt drinks are trying to crash the backyard barbecue.

Consumers in the US market will find a bevy of new malt-based drinks and some higher beer prices this summer, as companies gear up for what is expected to be a heated selling season.

The weeks between Memorial Day weekend and Labor Day are a key time for beverage makers, as consumers stock up on drinks for barbecues, trips to the beach and other events.

This year, the race has taken on a new turn, as the top US brewers are promoting new alternative malt drinks, or "malternatives," to compete in a segment of the market that is growing rapidly compared with typical brews.

Analysts are eager to learn how the string of malternatives—ranging from vodka-flavored drinks to a whiskey and cola flavored offering—will affect sales of beer.

"What we're going to end up seeing is a situation where there are just too many new products," said JP Morgan beverage analyst John Faucher. "I think the vast majority of them are not going to meet expectations."

The giants have a lot to lose—or gain. For a company like Adolph Coors Co., consumers switching to malternatives could mean a major drop for Coors Light, which accounts for most of its volume. To that end, the company is blitzing the media with Coors Light advertising and revamping its own malternative, Zima, which has been out for almost a decade. It is also rolling out Vibe, a malt drink aimed at men.

Malternatives, barely a blip on beer makers' radar screens just a few years ago, now account for more than 2 percent of the industry's market share and an even higher percentage of revenue since they often sell at premium prices.

Still, big beer has faced other summertime challengers and managed to remain the toast of the party. Other recent offerings showed strong promise in the beginning and then faded, industry watchers said, recalling ice beers, dry beers, wine coolers and exotic microbrews.

The flavored drinks being introduced this year follow the success of Diageo Plc's Smirnoff Ice, a malt drink that hit the US market in January 2001. So far in 2002, brewers have teamed up big brand names in the spirits industry on at least six new malt-based offerings based on liquor flavors.

Plus, two niche light beers are making their debut as light beers keep growing at a more rapid clip than regular beers. *Reuters*

Deutsche Telekom sees $5-B loss, no profit in next 3 years

BONN, Germany—Deutsche Telekom expects to post a net loss of 5.5 billion euros ($5.1 billion) this year and not to turn a profit until 2005, the chief finance officer of the German telecoms giant said in an interview released on Friday.

"In the next three years, including 2004, we do not expect a net profit," Karl-Gerhard Eick told German newspaper Die Welt in an interview to appear on Saturday but released in advance.

"This year, we will have with 5.5 billion euros our deepest loss yet", he said.

He explained that the loss would be due to costs related to the takeover of its newly acquired US mobile operator VoiceStream and the consolidation of the subsidiary for the first time into the group's accounts.

Company head Ron Sommer had already warned in mid-January that the group's net results would be negative for years because of writing down the value of acquisitions and investments in next-generation mobile phone technology.

Eick said the group would not post a profit for the next three years unless the group spun off or sold assets.

But he explained it was unlikely the company would float on the stock market its T-Mobile unit this year unless the market environment significantly improved by autumn.

Eick's comments came after the group announced it was launching a 5-billion-euro bond issue to help it refinance part of its 67-billion-euro mountain of debt.

Deutsche Telekom had to put the issue off one day because the credit rating agency Moody's cut its outlook assessment for Deutsche Telekom on Thursday.

The company has set itself the goal of slashing its debt to 50 billion euros by the end of 2003. *AFP*

MICROSOFT chair and chief software architect Bill Gates shows reporters the new Tablet PC during a news conference at the sixth annual CEO summit held at Microsoft's headquarters in Redmond, Washington. AFP

Panasonic
GD75
ADVANCED FEATURES!

- Download polyphonic tones & logos
- Personal Information Management System
- SMS Chat
- T9 Text Input
- Desktop Hands-Free
- Group Sending
- Graphic User Interface
- Five directional joystick
- Internal modem
- Recordable ringer function
- Games: Racing & Ball
- Voice Memo & Voice Dial

Included FREE! Personal Handsfree, Carry Case & Phone Strap

BUY A GD75 AND GET A CHANCE TO DRIVE HOME A BRAND NEW COROLLA ALTIS

Consolation Prize:
- Panasonic Sophia Colored TV TC-29SF3 (73.66 cm.)

Available at the following outlets nationwide:
Metro Manila ADI Telecoms 637-1011 • Cellpage 911-7061 • Cellphones Unlimited 850-1504 Excell 314-7863 • Mactel 843-3062 • Mega Cellular 526-5151 • Memo Express 243-9461 Quickcom 521-7921 • ULB Int'l 635-7546 • Wellcom 889-0021• Wireless 893-1788 / 638-1111 Luzon (BAGUIO)First Exclusive(074)619-0795 • (PAMPANGA)DG Phones(045)961-6120 (LAGUNA)South 2000(049)562-5523• (BATANGAS)Blitz Marketing(043)404-2051 Visayas (BACOLOD)PO'S Marketing(034)432-3223 • (CEBU)Junrex(032)233-9805 (CEBU)Osam Enterprises(032)232-8343•(ILOILO)Hari Marketing(033)336-1143 Mindanao (CAGAYAN DE ORO)Graphic All-In Stores (088)856-7099 • Happy Warehouse (088)856-6777 • (DAVAO) BYL Marketing(082) 227-2746 • Herrera Brothers(082)222-0729 • (GENERAL SANTOS)Hari Marketing II (083)554-7091 (ZAMBOANGA)First Welan(062) 991-0964
See posters & flyers for details!
*Approved by DTI-NCR Per DTI-NCR Permit No.0323 Series of 2002
SMALL SIZE DRIVE THE PRIZE EXTENDED February 18 to June 30, 2002
Panasonic

Japan's NEC to shut PC plants

TOKYO—Japanese computer giant NEC Corp. will close its plants in Britain and Malaysia in a bid to revamp its troubled personal computer businesses, a newspaper said Saturday.

NEC plans to shut down its Scotland factory later this year, which produces 350,000 desktops a year for sale in the European market, the Nihon Keizai Shimbun said.

The company is considering looking for a buyer of the Scotland plant, the business daily said.

NEC will shut down the Malaysian plant also later this year, which turns out 100,000 PCs for shipments to other Southeast Asian nations and Australia.

The company intends to farm out the lost production to a Taiwanese firm operating in China, the newspaper said.

NEC , which is speeding up its reforms of PC operations, also plans to shift part of production at its remaining two production bases—one in Japan and one France—to China.

With other plants at home and abroad also under review, NEC expects Chinese production to eventually account for 70 percent of its total PC output, it said.

The company intends to export these made-in-China products to Japan and elsewhere across the globe. NEC also plans to set up a PC sales firm in China. *AFP*

A HOSTESS presents the new Citroen "C3", the unique French car totally manufactured in Spain during the Madrid International Motor Show. AFP

Music industry sues music swapping site Audiogalaxy

LOS ANGELES—The recording and music publishing industries extended their legal pursuit of online music swapping firms, suing Audiogalaxy for copyright infringement.

The Recording Industry Association of America and the National Music Publishers Association accused the Austin, Texas, firm of "willfully and intentionally" encouraging and facilitating millions of users to copy and distribute copyright work of artists, ranging from Dave Mathews and Celine Dion to Alicia Keyes and The Beatles.

The two industry groups that filed the suit Friday claim that Audiogalaxy, with more than 15 million registered users, uses a system that is even more egregious than Napster, which the music industry effectively shut down in the courts last year.

Founder Michael Merhej and other AudioGalaxy officials did not immediately return calls placed to their offices late Friday afternoon.

Merhej said previously that AudioGalaxy was taking measures to prevent copyrighted music from being illegally shared, but RIAA officials complained that the measures were insufficient.

Audiogalaxy, which grew out of a music search engine at the University of Texas, not only allows users to download songs and albums, but also cover artwork and software.

The firm uses some 430 computer servers as a hub for users to trade through, providing a huge database that lists thousands of available songs, their file size and download speeds.

In their claim filed late Friday in a New York federal court, the plaintiffs said billions of copyrighted works might have been downloaded illegally.

The company reported more than 1.5 billion monthly hits in November, and makes money by selling online advertising and subscriptions for access to premium services.

The RIAA represents all the major recording companies. The NMPA represents music publishing firms as well as songwriters through its licensing affiliate, the Harry Fox Agency. *AP*

'Mario Bros.' creator seeks to keep video gaming simple

LOS ANGELES—With his boyish grin, tousled black hair and "Donkey Kong" T-shirt, Shigeru Miyamoto looks like any other video gaming enthusiast at this year's Electronic Entertainment Expo.

But with hundreds of millions of dollars at stake, Nintendo is counting on his imagination to boost sales of its second place GameCube console against Sony's leading PlayStation2 and Microsoft's third place Xbox.

Miyamoto, 49, may be unknown to many, but hardcore gaming fans revere him as an icon, a man who has created a multitude of memorable video game titles working quietly from Nintendo headquarters in Kyoto, Japan.

His creations—from "Donkey Kong" in 1981 to the "Mario Bros.," "The Legend of Zelda" and last year's "Pikmin"—are not only among the most popular games of all time. They helped make video gaming itself popular.

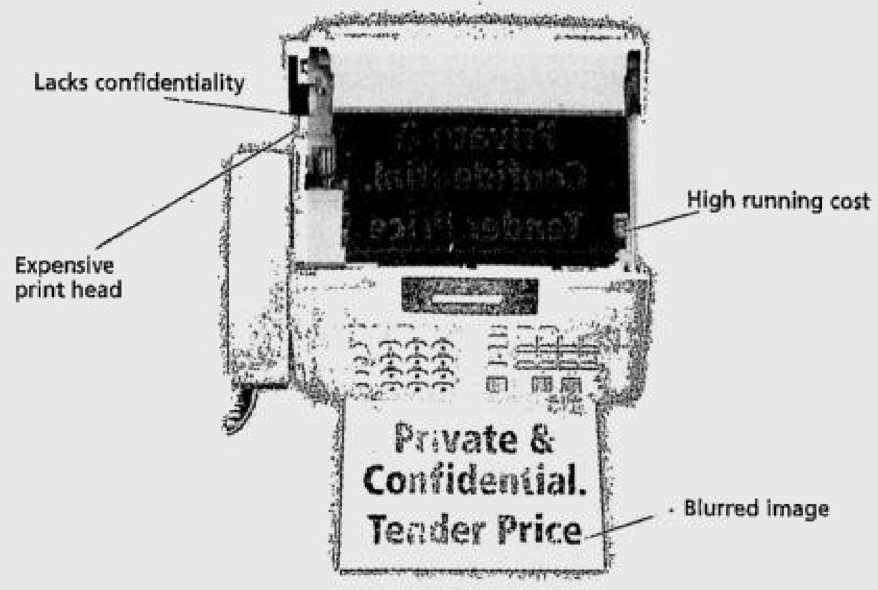
The combination of an unlikely mix of rotund cartoon creatures and adventure action are Miyamoto's hallmark. He thinks games should appeal to the inner child in adults—and seeks to keep them simple so they attract first-time players.

"I don't necessarily focus on making characters for children," he said through an interpreter. "But every adult has a kind of a childlike core to them and a bit of their childhood still in there. So really, what I'm trying to do is draw out the child in the adult while still entertaining younger kids as well."

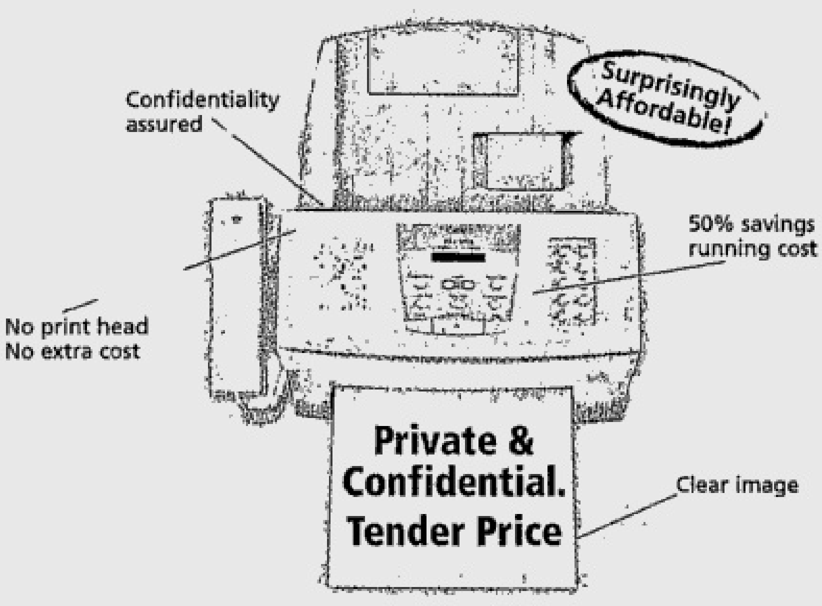
Miyamoto's games have produced sequel after sequel, each one taking advantage of the latest technological advancements. The first of them featured complex single-screen adventuring at the advent of video gaming.

Then came the innovative scrolling screen format of "Super Mario Bros." on the original Nintendo Entertainment System console, along with the rolling overhead view of "The Legend of Zelda" in 1986. The next-generation Super Nintendo console allowed for the combination of both formats with improved graphics, seen in the "Zelda" follow-up "A Link to the Past." *AP*

Which fax would you rather choose?



Other Ink Film Faxes



Canon Bubble Jet Fax B155

Not all faxes are equal. Canon's Bubble Jet fax has the edge thanks to Canon's Bubble Jet technology that offers impressively clear printouts with sharp images. Its filmless technology doesn't leave telltale imprints which give away the confidential contents of your documents. It has only one cartridge to change. In fact, you save up to 50% on the running cost. And you get it almost at the same price as an ink film plain paper fax.

Just call Canon today and discover for yourself the advantages of having a Canon Bubble Jet fax B155, and how surprisingly affordable it is.

Canon
Technology that makes you smile

CANON MARKETING (PHILIPPINES), INC.
Marvin Plaza, 2153 Don Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City • Tels.: 812-6047; 892-6449 • Fax: 812-6047 • E-mail address: info@canon.com.ph • Website: www.canon.com.ph

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: CANON SINGAPORE PTE LTD 79 ANSON ROAD #09-01/06 SINGAPORE 079906

PROVINCIAL BRANCHES:
CMP-Bataan Dilig Bldg., Manuel Banzon St., Balanga, Bataan Tel.: (047) 237-2151 • **CMP-Cebu** Door 10, 1P & 20 Free Star Arcade, Hernan Cortes St., Subangdaku, Mandaue City Tels.: (032) 344-6776; (032) 345-3821 Fax: (032) 345-3680 • **CMP-Davao** Door 1 Navigators Bldg., Ponce cor. Gempesaw St., Davao City Tel.: (082) 227-4820 Fax: (082) 222-3392 • **CMP-La Union** Ground Floor M. Peralta Bldg., Quezon Ave., Sevilla Norte, San Fernando City, La Union Tels.: (072) 242-4587; (072) 242-0440 • **CMP-Legaspi** Door 7 & 8 Ground Floor, CEA Bldg., Lapu-Lapu St., Legaspi City Tels.: (052) 214-3863; 820-2083 Fax: (052) 480-6331

AUTHORIZED DEALERS:
ALTA DEPARTMENT STORE 947 Quirino Highway, Novaliches, Quezon City Tels.: 937-6482; 937-1450 • **DIGITRON INT'L. SALES INC.** Mercedes Ave., Brgy. San Miguel, Pasig City Tel., 643-3456 • **FAIR N SQUARE** 350 Nueva cor. San Vicente St., Binondo, Manila Tels.: 241-3272 to 74; 363-8691 • **HYTECH** 9 Campanilla St., New Manila, Quezon City Tel.: 413-8899 • **PRODATA** 129 Scout Gandia St., Sacred Heart, Quezon City Tels.: 414-4347; 414-4336 • **SOLID BUSINESS MACHINES** Rm. 203 Singson Bldg., Plaza Moraga, Manila Tels.: 241-4094 to 95 • **THE COMPUTER AUTHORITY** 18/F Taipan Place, Emerald Ave., Ortigas, Pasig City Tels.: 637-1200; 850-3709; 253-1444 • **VILLMAN COMPUTER SYSTEMS, INC** Villman Bldg., #32 Road 8, Bagong Pag-asa, Quezon City Tels.: 929-0411; 892-2222

CANON BUSINESS ALLIANCE PARTNERS (CBAP):
ASP COMPUTER & ACCESSORIES 98 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City Tels.: 840-3278; 894-3560 • **CHARDELL SCHOOL & OFFICE SUPPLIES** Door C Ground Floor, 1168 Veca Bldg., Estrella St., San Antonio Village, Makati City Tel.: 896-8573 • **COPYTRADE** Copytrade Bldg., 550 MF Jhocson Street, Sampaloc, Manila Tels.: 749-8155 to 56 • **MCU COMMERCIAL** 465-467 Juan Luna St., Binondo, Manila Tels.: 241-1322; 243-0605 • **MICRO PACIFIC TECHNOLOGIES CO. LTD.** The Gallery Bldg., Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City Tels.: 840-4563; 840-4787

A member of citigroup

Raising working capital will only take 15 minutes.

Loan-on-Phone through Citibank. Tawag na sa 423-3333 and get approval in 15 minutes.

Citibank Installment Loan. Give us a call (from 8:30 am to 8:30 pm Monday to Saturday and 8:30 am to 5:30 pm Sunday), answer a few questions and we'll take care of the rest including delivering the loan proceeds to you. Borrow from P15,000 up to P1,000,000. No collateral required. Your monthly income may be as low as P10,000 (2001 ITR needed). Initially available in Metro Manila, Cavite, Laguna, Bulacan and Rizal Province. Terms and Conditions apply.

100 YEARS IN THE PHILIPPINES

citibank

OFW remittances climb 13.5%

By Clarissa S. Batino

DOLLAR remittances from the country's overseas workers rose 13.5 percent to $1.059 billion in the first two months of the year from $933 million during the same period last year.

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas said dollars sent by overseas Filipino workers to their families here allowed the peso's recovery in recent months.

The Japanese yen's recent weakness, however, has tempered the local currency's rise, pushing it downward to 50 to a dollar on Friday.

OFW remittances are usually stronger in the first two months of the year and toward the end of the second quarter in time for a new school-year cycle.

Filipino workers normally send their salaries and savings in May and June to pay for tuition and other school-related expenses.

Bangko Sentral Governor Rafael Buenaventura said tuition money from Filipino workers abroad helped prop up the peso to 49 to a dollar a few weeks ago.

Foreign exchange remittances in the first two months of the year were also stronger because of an increase in the number of Filipinos working overseas, Buenaventura said.

As a result, the income account surplus in January and February went up 49.7 percent to $753 million year-on-year.

The income account reflects the flow of funds largely due to trade in services.

Buenaventura had hoped that dollar remittances from overseas Filipino workers would be stronger this year to help stabilize the local currency and complement an improved inflow from portfolio and direct investments.

Last year, OFW remittances went down 8.1 percent, or by $490 million, to $5.56 billion, as the number of Filipinos working abroad also registered a drop.

There were 100,000 less Filipinos deployed overseas in 2001 from 4.8 million a year earlier, according to a survey conducted by the Commission on Filipino Overseas, an attached agency of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

The central bank said, however, that based on an expanded monitoring that would include OFW remittances lodged with thrift banks and money-changing subsidiaries of commercial banks, OFW remittances would have gone up by 3.1 percent to $6.235 billion last year.

The central bank said some remittances were coursed through smaller banks and money-shops affiliated with big banks, resulting in the informal coverage expansion.

Its formal data gathering, however, was still limited to commercial banks.

Foreign exchange inflows from overseas Filipino workers comprise nearly 85 percent of the country's gross earnings. It normally accounts for the usual half-a-percentage point difference between the gross domestic product and gross national product.

The central bank said healthy remittances should be one of the factors that would help push not only the peso up but also prod economic growth while global weakness remained.

The BSP said a healthy dollar inflow should help complement the performance of the domestic economy particularly from agriculture, services, and consumer and public spending.

PROCUREMENT
ZA H

REPRESENTATIVES Charlie Cojuangco and Rolando Andaya Jr. appealed to the Association of Government Accountants of the Philippines (Agap) to support the Government Procurement Reform Bill which seeks to make the government procurement process more transparent and free from graft and corruption.

Finally...

Lowest monthly amortization ever!

Really.

P1,000.00* a month FIXED for 2 years!

* For every P100,000 loan amount with a term of 15 years

PLUS! No application fee!

Call us now!

- 830-8727
- 830-8728
- 830-8729
- 830-8730
- 816-0623
- 830-8910
- 830-8912
- 830-8972

EASTWESTBANK
Building Relationships. Completing Lives

- *Through East West Bank's **Customer Protect Financing Plan,** a specially designed mortgage payment plan where the amortization is pre-determined over the entire term of the loan. Also available for a 10-year program.*

Email us at
service@eastwestbanker.com

Text us
<your name>__<contact no.>
and send to 0918-3387822 (Smart)
0916-5668254 (Globe)

Log on to
www.mylife.com.ph/myhome

Home Suite Loan
Good options. Better decisions.

ICT industry recovery seen to start in Q2

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

SYSTEMS Technology Institute (STI), one of the country's biggest computer schools, expects the information and communication technology (ICT) to rise out of its slumber beginning this quarter.

In a statement, the STI cited an Asian Development Bank study that projected a 6-percent growth in ICT exports this year, with the recovery starting as early as this quarter, on the back of better-than-expected recovery in the United States, the biggest market for this sector's products and services.

While the ICT growth projection is slower than the 2000 growth, STI said the ADB still considered the sector a growth industry with robust expansion over the medium term.

The STI also cited forecasts by the Board of Investments that exports of ICT services should increase by 373 percent to $1.6 billion in 2005 from $349 million last year. These ICT services include customer contact centers, medical transcription services, animation, shared backroom financial service, software development services and construction-related engineering and design.

The STI said this should boost demand for ICT professionals over the medium term after going down significantly since the United States went into a recession last year which was exacerbated by the 9-11 attacks in New York and Washington.

The STI said it expected more than 20,000 jobs available locally for ICT graduates based on the P12.9 billion worth of ICT projects approved by the BOI last year and the multibillion-peso expansion programs of Smart Communications, Globe Telecom and Digital Telecommunications.

Trade and Industry Secretary Manuel A. Roxas II had urged ICT graduates (expected to hit 70,000 this year) to be patient as he expressed confidence that jobs would become available as soon as the economy rebounds. In the meantime, he urged the ICT graduates to sharpen their skills by going through more training.

GOING-ON

Stradcom's 'Aa' rating

STRADCOM Corp. president and chief executive officer Jose A. Chua has expressed satisfaction over the "Aa" rating that the Philippine Rating Services Corp. (PhilRatings) gave to Stradcom's P12-billion IT bonds.

According to PhilRatings, Stradcom has a strong capacity to meet its financial commitments on the debt issue with a small degree of investment risk and has a well-protected market with stable growth prospects in view of its 10-year build-own-operate concession agreement with the Land Transportation Office for its P3.4-billion LTO-IT project.

The IT bonds have a tenor of five years and one day and are adequately secured.

GTD-listed firms

GLOBAL Trade Directory (GTD) Philippines said it now has more than 1.2 million companies listed from 172 countries, up from close to 1 million the previous quarter.

Also, the company said buyers could now search for companies from among the more than 60,000 products and services listed.

GTD Philippines gives clients a free Buyer Home Page that allows them to track new and preferred suppliers.

GTD Philippines is a partnership between Pacific Century CyberWorks (PCCW) Directories Limited of Hong Kong and WAND of the United States, the world's largest global trade directory.

Amkor warehouse

AMKOR Technology Philippines Inc. recently inaugurated its new 5,500-square-meter warehouse at the Amkor Special Economic Zone in Muntinlupa.

Guests during the inauguration were Trade and Industry Secretary Manuel A. Roxas II, Muntinlupa Mayor Jaime dela Rosa Fresnedi, Rep. Rozzano Rufino Biazon of Muntinlupa, Philippine Economic Zone Authority Director General Lilia B. de Lima and United States Consul George Ruffner.

Established in 1989, Amkor has to date cumulative investments in the Philippines exceeding P75 billion, 90 percent of which are in buildings, plants and machinery. Its sales last year reached P150 million.

Phone companies seen keeping GSM platform

By Abigail L. Ho

THE EXISTING global system for mobile communications (GSM) platform in the country is still good for another five to seven years, a telecommunications regulator said.

National Telecommunications Commission chief Eliseo Rio Jr. said in an interview that cellular giants Smart Communications Inc. and Globe Telecom Inc. could still take advantage of their GSM infrastructure as they prepare to go into third generation or 3G technology.

"The GSM operators can still take advantage of their earnings while at the same time putting up parallel 3G infrastructure," he said.

He added that the cellular service providers could start setting up 3G infrastructure three to four years from now before their GSM earnings taper off in at most seven years.

But Rio was quick to admit that nobody really knows what the "final shape" of 3G in the country would be.

"What does 3G have to offer that the present 2G (GSM) and 2.5G (general packet radio system) are not offering? There must first be content or the future 3G operators won't be able to sell the service," he said.

In an earlier interview, he said the NTC would not yet be allocating 3G frequencies as the market was still GSM-centric and its enhanced version, GPRS, has yet to take off.

He added that the regulatory body would be allowing only three players to offer 3G services so as not to saturate the market.

These three players would have to outbid each other for the frequencies, but with bids not breaching a certain ceiling so as not to reach exorbitant prices.

Rio cited the European experience where bids for 3G frequencies went sky high, prompting telecommunications entities that won the frequencies to offer 3G services at very high rates.

"It was very difficult to sell to consumers because of the very high rates. And there was also not that much content," he said.

He explained that this was the kind of scenario that the NTC would try to avoid when it allocates 3G frequencies in four to five years.

While 3G frequencies were not yet available, Rio said analog service providers had the option to shift to 3G with their existing 800 megahertz frequencies.

"Their existing infrastructure would be totally useless, but they would still have the frequencies," he said.

Smart offers 'roaming' in Korea

FILIPINOS visiting South Korea for the 2002 FIFA World Cup will enjoy a breakthrough in mobile communications—those subscribing to the GSM service of Smart Communications will be able to "roam" and use their GSM mobile phone number.

Smart said this takes a bit of a stretch because there are no GSM operators in South Korea, which is totally dedicated to GSM's rival digital cellular standard CDMA or Code Division Multiple Access. This has made the Korea Peninsula a black hole for GSM roamers.

To roam there, Smart said its subscribers must bring their SIM (Subscriber Identity Module) cards and then insert the card into a hybrid CDMA roaming phone, which is available for rental in airports and major hotels for a dollar a day.

Developed by Korea Telecom Freetel (KTF), these handsets enable GSM roamers to cross the digital divide.

The phones run on the CDMA network of KTF, which is Korea's second largest mobile carrier. But they also accept Smart GSM SIMs so that a roaming Smart subscriber retains his phone number.

"This is the first time that a Philippine operator has established a roaming relationship with a network outside the GSM world," said Anastacio Martirez, Smart head for personal communications and mobile services division.

"This breakthrough will eventually pave the way for more extensive roaming arrangements that will allow Smart subscribers to tap not only the extensive global GSM network but also utilize CDMA networks in such key countries as South Korea, Japan and the United States," he added.

GSM is the most popular digital cellular standard and is particularly prevalent in Europe and in Asia.

Until recently, it was impossible to roam between GSM and CDMA networks. The two cellular species were incompatible.

TO ALL ENTREPRENEURS
EMPOWER
YOUR KEY PEOPLE
FOR THE GREATER PRODUCTIVITY, PROFITABILITY AND PROFESSIONALISM OF YOUR ENTERPRISE

SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS AND LEADERSHIP COURSE
July 1-2 and 10, 11, 12, 2002

The Situational Analysis and Leadership Course is one of the **Management Skills Development (MSD) for SME Professionals** series of courses. This five-day course is designed for managers, supervisors and other employees holding critical positions in small or medium enterprises.

The course is designed to develop thinking skills which facilitate situation analysis, problem solving, decision making, and evaluation of options and alternatives confronting the day to day operations of the enterprise. It likewise equips participants with "people skills" to motivate, inspire, and lead other people in the organization, in support of the entrepreneur and enterprise growth.

This two-pronged approach to develop both thinking and people skills of participants is essential for taking on managerial and leadership roles in the company.

COURSE CONTENT

- Situation and Problem Analysis
- Problem Solving and Decision Making
- Situational Leadership
- People Skills
- Communication Skills

For inquiries and reservations, call:
ASIAN CENTER FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP
Luvy A. Villanueva *Program Manager*
Telefax : 813-3302
Trunkline: 892-4011 loc. 187
E-mail : ace@dataserve.aim.edu.ph
lvillanu@dataserve.aim.edu.ph

Liza Ayalde
Trunkline: 892-4011 loc. 252
E-mail : mayalde@aim.edu.ph

ASIAN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT
Asian management with a global perspective.
123 Paseo de Roxas, Legaspi Village Makati City 1200, Philippines Website : www.aim.edu.ph

Liberty Commodities Corporation equals world's best

QUALITY ASSURED FIRM
ISO 9002
SGS
BPS

Global Standards for a Global Company.

LIBERTY COMMODITIES CORPORATION
ISO 9002 Awarding Ceremonies
with SGS Philippines Inc.
·APRIL 26,2002

Dr. Felix K. Maramba, Jr., Liberty Commodities Corp. President, receives the ISO 9002 award from David Harlock, SGS Phils. Inc. General Manager at the awarding ceremonies.

Unique World Class Award achieved in 3 business aspects

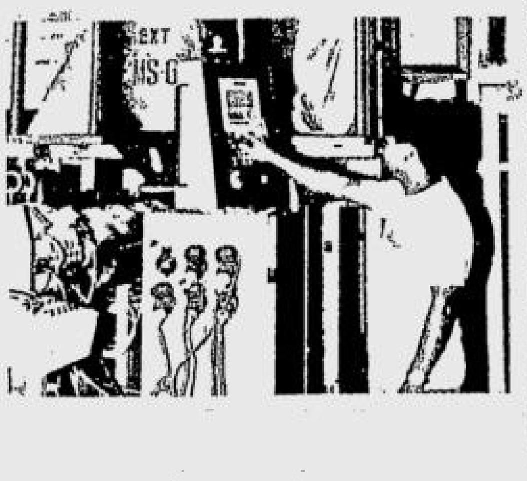
Liberty Commodities Corporation (LCC), a 100 percent Filipino business company has been awarded the ISO 9002 certification, the badge of excellence earned by companies through the meticulous integration of a global quality management system. This world quality standard was achieved through excellence in three of the company's business aspects; its Foods division, the high density polyethylene pipes of its Plastics division and the Shipboard Culinary Course of the Maya Kitchen.

All three LCC undertakings have been rated at par with international standards that the company will strive to maintain as its commitment to total customer satisfaction in the brands it carries and on the services it renders.

Liberty Commodities Corporation delivers world-class quality as it demonstrates excellence.

Liberty
PLANT: KM. 23 East Service Road, Cupang Muntinlupa City 1770
OFFICE: Liberty Bldg., 835 A.S. Arnaiz Avenue (formerly Pasay Road), Makati City 1200

MAYA
AMERICA'S #1 FLOUR Gold MEDAL



LIBPIPE
Polyethylene Pipes

The Maya Kitchen
CULINARY ARTS CENTER

Mercer unveils new name

HUMAN resource consulting firm William M. Mercer has announced that it will operate around the world as Mercer Human Resource Consulting.

Since its creation more than 50 years ago, Mercer has come to be regarded as a world leader in retirement and employee benefits consulting. Over the past decade, the firm has greatly extended its consulting capabilities and today advises clients on a broad array of their most important human resource issues, helping them to create business value through their people. The new name better reflects Mercer's current range of service offerings.

"The name Mercer Human Resource Consulting encompasses the full range of resources that we, as a global company, can bring to bear on behalf of our clients," said Dr. Reiji Ohtaki, managing director Asia. In Asia, Mercer employs more than 500 people in 16 offices in 11 countries (China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand).

In conjunction with introducing its new identity, Mercer is launching www.mercerHR.com, a web site that replaces wmmercer.com. MercerHR.com provides access to the firm's global intellectual capital, do-it-yourself tools for HR professionals, and products that users can purchase online. The site offers content in six languages and may be navigated fully in English and French. Users will be able to personalize the site — including choice of Roman-character language — so that the homepage reflects their interests each time they log on. Ultimately the site will accommodate non-Roman-character languages as well.

Mercer also provides investment advice to organizations about issues unrelated to human resources, as well as to retirement plan sponsors. Consequently, the firm's investment consulting practice will be branded as Mercer Investment Consulting and have its own section on Mercer's web site, accessible at www.mercerIC.com.

With more than 13,000 employees in 39 countries serving clients worldwide, Mercer Human Resource Consulting is part of Mercer Consulting Group, a wholly owned subsidiary of Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc., which lists its stock (ticker symbol: MMC) on the New York, Chicago, Pacific, and London stock exchanges.

BREAKTHROUGHS THAT ENHANCE LIFE
SHARP

SHARP TOP 10 DEALERS HONORED

Sharp (Phils.) Corp. president and general manager Shigeo Kashimi (seventh from left) led other company executives in awarding Sharp's top 10 dealers. Among the awardees this year is Abenson Inc. represented by Winston Lim (eighth from left) who received the Dealer of the Year Award during the annual Sharp dealers convention held recently. Also shown are (from left) Sharp Corp. Japan general manager for laundry systems division Makoto Takafuku, Rudy Tiu of Imperial Appliance (dealer number 8), Darwin Alvarez of Gillamac's Marketing Inc (number 6), Benjie Caro of Manson's Appliance (number 5), Stephen Charles Go of Super Appliance Corp. (number 3), Emil Toh of Middle East Trading (number 2), Teresa Gochangco of J Marketing (number 7), Sharp Phils. SVP and general administration group GM Kazuhisa Kamiya, Estrellita Santiago of Estrellita Home Value (number 10), Sharp Phils. AVP and domestic sales division GM Koji Domoto, Roberto Lim of Emilio S. Lim Appliance (number 9), Stephen Yap of Quality Appliance Plaza Inc. (number 4), and Sharp Phils. AVP and regional sales manager for Visayas Mindanao Ananias Saluria Jr.

TRENDY NIKE PRESTO ANKLETS

Nike store manager Ricky Santiago hands over a Nike Presto anklet to Ryan Cabading, a Business Economics student from UP Diliman. Ryan is one of thousands of lucky texters who were able to grab hold of limited Nike Presto anklets in an SMS campaign sponsored by Nike. Nike came up with the SMS promo to welcome the newest collection of Nike Presto shoes, which include the Nike Air Presto, Nike Air Presto Chanjos, Nike Air Presto Gym, and Nike Air Presto Woven. The Nike Presto is designed to be the snuggest-fitting shoe to ever hug and comfort your feet and at the same time excite wearers with its stylish designs and colors. Check out the newest collection in the different outlets of Nike Stadium, Nike Forum and Nike Park.

Inner self, self-growth process tackled in Jung seminar

A WORKSHOP series to enable participants to access their inner selves and appreciate the unconscious (the not-so-visible world that shapes and influences their lives) will be offered by the Friends of Jung Society Philippines (FOJ) in June and July.

The workshop series, called "Exploring the Self ", provides opportunities for the exploration, discovery and recognition of their personal journey toward wholeness.

It introduces the works of Carl Gustav Jung, a pillar of modern psychology, on the process of individuation, which is often marked prominently by a period of "wounding." Wounding usually comes during periods of personal upheavals and struggles, such as loss of or rejection by loved ones, mid-life issues, job transitions or empty nest situations.

Those who have taken the workshop have emerged with fresh perspectives on their states of lives, positively affecting their self-concepts, personal relationships, and business and professional thrusts. It also lends a good grasp of the dynamism of one's psyche, through Jungian principles of opposites (polarity), synchronicity, archetypes and dreams analysis to let the unconscious surface.

The series will be at the Filipinas Heritage Library (fronting the Manila Peninsula) on Makati Avenue, Makati City, on four Wednesdays on June 19, 26; July 3 and July 10, from 9 am to 6 p.m. Fee of P5,600 per person includes materials. For registration, call Marina at 892-4610; Len or Meds at 453-4553 and Ruby at 0916-4461748 or email rubycomm@eudoramail.com or rubycomm7@yahoo.com. More details are available at www.rubycomm.com starting June 1.

The FOJ is an organization of Filipino psychologists and Jung enthusiasts who share Jungian wisdom and insights through lectures and seminars. "Exploring the Self" faculty include Rose Marie Yenko who introduced "Exploring Jung" summer classes at the Ateneo de Manila Department of Psychology; Dido Gustilo Villasor who introduced "Archetypal Psychology" at the Graduate School of Education, De La Salle University; Bernie Nepomuceno, who brought Jungian psychology at the Institute of Religious Studies, and Sophie Sim-Bate who lectured in succeeding "Exploring Jung" programs at the Ateneo.

Last March, a "Women in Media Seminar on Jung Psychology" was also held at the Filipinas Heritage Library to acquaint media practitioners with Jungian handles both for their personal development and as professional tool in relating with people they write about or who figure prominently in the news.

LYCEUM'S 1ST UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

Lawyer Gonzalo Duque was recently sworn in by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo as the first president of the newly declared university Lyceum Northwestern (formerly Lyceum Northwestern College) in Dagupan City, Pangasinan. Among those who witnessed the rites were Higher Education Commissioner Manuel Punzal, Duque's wife lawyer Ruth Duque and children Christian, Nicolo, Nestor, Jovito, Armando and Pebbles. Duque, also a former deputy administrator of the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration, was also conferred a doctorate of education by the University of Baguio. Lyceum Northwestern and University of Baguio had earlier signed a sisterhood agreement.

REGIONAL SALES RECOGNITION

Kraft Foods Philippines recently awarded the Regional Sales Manager of the Year to Benny A. Batac (center) during the National Sales Conference at the Great Eagle Hotel in Hong Kong. About 200 Kraft employees, distributors and business partners went to Hong Kong to discuss accomplishments, new marketing plans and integration of forces for 2002. Also shown are (from left) KFP sales director Winston Wycoco, KFP marketing director Steven Ness, KF-SEA operations director Evaristo Francisco and KFP president and general manager Ferdinand dela Cruz.

CHDC'S HIGH-TECH EQUIPMENT

The Community Health and Development Cooperative (CHDC) hospital recently acquired two units of the Hitachi EUB-6000 (3-dimensional ultrasound scanner). These state-of-the-art medical equipment will be used for Radiology and OB-Gynecology Departments to further improve its health services to all Davaoeños. Hitachi EUB-6000 is exclusively distributed by Himex Corp., which has been distributing Hitachi medical products for the past 15 years. With the installation of these machines, CHDC hospital can be considered at par in innovating the digital ultrasound technology, thus providing the best possible results in image quality and diagnostic functions for patients. Dr. Josephine Cadayona, board chair of CHDC hospital, added that the equipment has the Dynamic Tissue Harmonic Imaging (DTHI), which is capable of extracting higher harmonic echo and depicting images at greater depths. Hitachi EUB-6000 also has Digital Beam Forming which allows the system to receive acoustic data from the patient four times faster.

BITS Clips

Long-lasting fit with Adidas

COMPETE at your best, enjoy leisurely at the fullest. Presenting, the Infinitex collection from Adidas. The Infinitex is a collection of magnificently designed swimsuits, tops and trunks manufactured from specially engineered infinitex fabric made from nylon and lycra materials that can endure prolonged use in chlorinated pool water. These, in effect, result to longer-lasting fit and comfort, best during competition and during leisure swims. Infinitex swim suits, tops and trunks are now available in Adidas shops and leading department stores nationwide.

Free movies from Ayala, Timezone

AYALA Cinemas and Timezone bring you more fun this summer. Get a power-packed afternoon from playing the coolest arcade games and watching your favorite films with the More Power, More Movies promo. Until May 31, Timezone outlets in Glorietta 4 and Glorietta 2 offer you maximum games and major movie enjoyment. All you have to do is purchase or reload P500 worth of Timezone Powercard credits and it entitles you to two Glorietta 1 movie tickets free. The movie tickets are valid until June 30.

Philips extended promo nears end

PHILIPS' "Summer Load of Giveaways" promo has been extended up to May 31. This exciting promo lets you take home exciting free items just by purchasing Philips' superb audio equipment. For every purchase of Philips' VCD Mini Hi-Fi such as the FW-V780, FW-V720, FW-V520, FW-V320, or FW-V220, you get cool items that will make summertime truly fun. The freebie package includes three great movie VCDs, two karaoke VCDs, a microphone for those sing-along moments, or a cool VCD organizer for your movie collection.

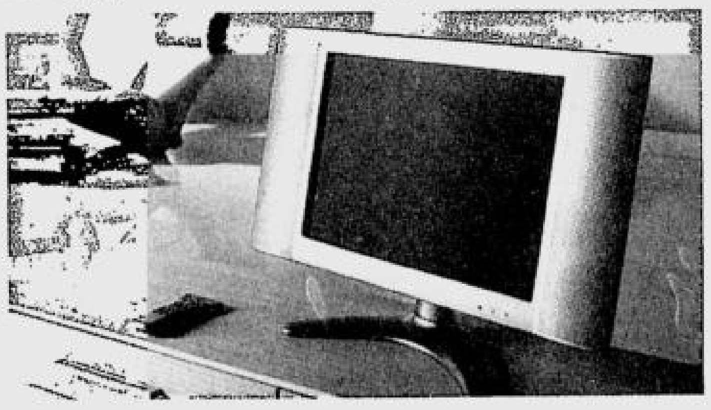
Luau Out Loud with Meg

BEFORE you stack up your summer getup until next year, set out for one last summer party. Cap off the summer season at the Eastwood City Walk and Luau Out Loud with Meg magazine on May 31. Guests can check out a row of interactive booths set along the City Walk's Central Plaza. Check out the Beauty Bar's selection of makeup and beauty knick-knacks. Stop over at the henna tattoo and nail art booth and select one that suits you best. Set to dish out pulsating music till the wee hours of June 1 are guest DJs Jon Herrera and DJ Paolo. Partygoers will also get a glimpse of the latest in fashion with runway presentations. Rummage your pile of summer garbs and prepare the perfect Luau getup. Special prizes are in store for guests. Meg is published by Mega Magazines and Publications Inc. and is now available at major bookstores and newsstands for P85 a copy. Call 631-2859 or log on to www.ivegotstyle.net for details.

Product FILES

Cutting-edge LCDs offer better AV experience

EVERYONE loves the sharpness of liquid crystal display (LCD) televisions because they make the audio-visual experience more vivid. But no matter how large they may be, LCD displays are of little use if they are hard to view in strong-light conditions (e.g. under fluorescent light or direct sunlight) due to screen glare or reduced contrast.



Sharp Corp. of Japan, the world leader in LCD technology, has addressed this problem by developing an original low-reflection coating called "Black TFT" that ensures an optimal contrast ratio in medium- to strong-light conditions. Composed of layers of two polarizing plates, TFT glass substrate, liquid crystal, color filter, anti-glare treatment and low-reflection coating, the Black TFT LCD provides optimum contrast in conditions over 40 lux. A lux is a unit of illumination equivalent to 0.0929 footcandle, the illumination given by a standard candle at one foot.

The Japanese company also offers an Advanced TFT or Dual Mode Transflective Display LCD. This model functions as a low-power reflective LCD in outdoor or other strong-light conditions, then manually switches into a back-lit transmissive LCD in indoor or low-light conditions. These LCDs use cutting-edge technology that has the advantages of both reflective and transmissive LCDs, making them pleasing to human eyes in any viewing environment.

These LCD systems, available locally through Sharp (Phils.) Corp. dealers, have one-sixth the thickness and one-third the weight of conventional cathode ray tube (CRT) televisions. They also have multiple AV connections such as a DVD compatible component terminal, S-video input terminal, and an AV in-out terminal. The monitors can be used worldwide because of multi-system compatibility for PAL, PAL-M, Secam, and NTSC 3.58/4.43.

Best of all, the LCD units have a low-energy consumption rating at 58 watts—about 50 percent less than CRT TVs. Interested AV aficionados can call 807-1912 or 842-1371 local 112 for more information.

Gay month at Outlet Yard

THIS MAY, the Outlet Yard celebrates the traditional Flores de Mayo with a colorful gay beauty pageant Ms Flores de Mayo 2002. The grand final is on May 31. For more inquiries, call 718-1885. The Outlet Yard is the latest mall in Quezon City, featuring the best in fashion and dining. It is located at 1480 Quezon Avenue (near corner Scout Borromeo).

40 sentimos

per kilowatt-hour na lang ang

PPCA

mula sa National Power Corporation

Alinsunod sa kautusan ng Pangulong Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo noong ika-8 ng Mayo 2002, itinakda na lamang sa halagang 40 sentimos per kilowatt-hour ang PPCA o Purchased Power Cost Adjustment ng National Power Corporation (NPC).

Ang pagbaba ng PPCA ay magdudulot ng agarang kabawasan sa singil ng kuryente.

Malaki ang maitutulong nito sa badyet ng Pamilyang Pilipino, pandagdag sa mahahalagang gastusin tulad ng pagkain, gamot, damit, matrikula at iba pa.

LUGAR	PPCA NGAYON*	BAGONG PPCA	Halagang Matitipid (kung ang kunsumo ay 200 kWh kada buwan)
Luzon	1.53	0.40	P 226.00
Cebu-Negros-Panay	1.07	0.40	P 134.00
Leyte-Samar	0.50	0.40	P 20.00
Mindanao	0.59	0.40	P 38.00

Base sa singil ng NPC sa mga distribution utilities nuong Abril 2002. Nagbabago ito kada buwan.

Ang halagang inyong matitipid ay depende sa dami ng kuryenteng binibili ng inyong distributor, tulad ng MERALCO sa Luzon, mula sa NPC. Ito ay mare-reflect sa tinatawag na Purchased Power Adjustment o PPA sa inyong buwanang electric power bill. Ang halimbawa sa taas ay maasahan kung ang mga distributor ninyo ay kumukuha ng kuryente sa NPC ng 100%.

National Power Corporation

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8972535 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 8974808
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY.
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6872354 ☎ 6872366 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5280183 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS

The Widest Reaching Classifieds

MONDAY, MAY 27, 2002

RATES
P230 per column centimeter
P65 per line
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINES
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Mondays to Saturdays
12:00 noon
Day before publication
Sundays
12:00 noon
every Thursday

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

MEDICAL

PHYSICIAN/SURGEON

RAPID Tx VD-STD
SCARS Ex SWEAT ALLERGIES
15 Annapolis, Greenhills
Call 7276124 to 25 9am-7pm

VDSTD Matrinco Bldg. 2178 P. Tamo 8175071

PERSONAL

ARCHITECTS

DESIGN-BUILD
726-7340 • 0917-2403756

COSMETOLOGY

AROMATHERAPY
SPA BODY TREATMENT
TRAINING / WORKSHOP
8956031 L2011 OR 8971832

FACIAL SKINCARE
TRAINING / WORKSHOP
8956031 L2011 OR 8971832

HEALTH/FITNESS

Weight Less
Call 521-9683 / 0917-4770408

MASSAGE

'02 Malebox 3233269

'02 Malebox 3233269

• 889-0170 •
BODY RHYTHMYX

@HUMAN@
MEN'S DESIRE 844-3896

AKHIN THAI MASSAGE#0917 4116004 Mla & Cebu srvcs

Harold Massage 09164143423

★BONG 0916-4329065★

•Ivan Masseur 7048757•

JAMES MALE 24HRS SERVICE 8511883 ; 0916-4404374

MALE 16 PALANAN 7320659

Pretty, European Girl 0919-2525922

SHIATSU M/F 2862142 Rene

UNWIND 752-0437

VIP-M/F-24H-SVC 8312373 Romy

REFLEXOLOGY

Edgar 09204076717 7503640 HHS

Edward 7289285 09183257044

FEELS GOOD REFLEXOLOGY CENTER 412-7758 / 413-4027

MALE SPA 562 BANAUE 7411426

HOUSEHOLD

FLOOR SANDING

JL Flr Sand serv 4102824

HOUSEHOLD JOBS

BEST MAIDS 8533504•8533505

Help Agency 532-1947 • 532-8376

Loyalty Honesty&Guarantee Maids w/NBI&BI •8227269/7769512•

MAIDS W/NBI 5349075

MAIDS•2594067•9268984

MIDWIFE MAID 8708799

NURSE•Midwife•Oldsitter•Yaya 8720265•8735062•8712372

Prov'l MAID YAYA COOK LABA BOY DRIVER 872-2792•873-5271

REL'BLE MAID YAYA 5628681

RELIABLE HONEST MAIDS
W/ NBI 4213253

ANGEL'S HANDS MAIDS W/NBI&BI 883-4270

RELIABLE MAIDS 8330946/47

TRUSTED QUALITY MAIDS W/NBI & BI 4213828

Yaya Maid Cook Laba 9133924

LIPAT BAHAY

L-BAHAY 9206784 4540520

A-1 Lipat Bahay 4313974

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

HOUSEHOLD

LIPAT BAHAY

•CHEAP LBAHAY 9260424•

L-BAHAY 8383742/5447599

L-BAHAY 712-16-92

LIPAT BAHAY Tel. 805-3362

LPTBAHAY 8054913/8010759

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

COMML/RESDL

MARIKINA

COML APT 2STY 2TB RAINBOW ST. MARIKINA P2.5M NEGOTIABLE PAY ONLY P 1.7 M ASSUME BALANCE 9330325 /09179129850

HOUSE & LOT

MANILA

VITO CRUZ MANILA
8New Thse 4sty/3br/3tb/grge
P3.173M up 8903461 loc 34

MANDALUYONG

E. Greenhills Nr Church LA 600 6br Pool Call 634-1212

MARIKINA

Grnind bnew 3br 2M 9487112

NEAR ATENEO UP
2STY 5BR ANN • 929-4145

IND VALLEY LA450 Resd'l or Office P7.5 • 634-1212

Rush! Calumpang LA 293 2BR+1TB 0917-2429078

PARANAQUE

H&L/Lots Sale/Rent 8239255

PASIG

GREENWOODS EXEC V 3.15M
Final LA204 FA265 4BR
4TB 2CarGg + Fam/Mds/
Uti Rms + Veranda Full
renovation, repainting,
Elect. water systems A-1
cond. Dir buyer only.
Inspection to be sked
1-4 pm Sat, Sun,Tue,Wed
Grace/Cualo 3711438,
4123999 (8am-5pm,M-F)
or call 3743719
. 0917-5260272

Hse&Lot Bungalow A-220sqm @ P3M • 534-6610 • Jojo

Nr Reedley Int'l School LA 230 FA 200 Call 634-1212

QUEZON CITY

1073M Mayon St.-SMH QC D.B. 929-8376

300M Banawe St. SMH QC DB 929-8376

362M Banawe SMH QC D.B. 929-8376

390m² Kalaon St. SMH
QC Lot w/Hse 9298376 P8M

800m² Apo St SMH QC 929-8376 / 0919-4024987

800m² Speaker Perez SMH 929-8376

960M² Banawe SMH QC DB 929-8376

L258 Rolling Hill New Mla. 2Sty 4BR 2Car • 929-8376

L-280m² Apo St. Sta Mesa Hgt. Old House 929-8376

L-411m² D. Tuazon SMH QC 2Sty 929-8376 / 0919-4024987

L-624m² SFDM QC Whse 2Sty 4br w/Office Call 929-8376

LA1000m² New Mla QC Old Hse 929-8376 0919-4024987

LA480 Mayon St. QC
Comml Neg SMH • 929-8376

Quirino Hway H/L Good for Whse • 534-6610 • Jojo

RIZAL

Bentley Park Subd LA108 FA100 3br2tb 09178174547

PROVINCIAL

PACITA COMPLEX
Clean Title Call 820-5935

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

PROVINCIAL

STA. ROSA 6T/MO 11YRS 8493374393

OTHER AREAS

LAGUNA BEL AIR 3
30 mins from Makati. Grab corner lots 0917-9114250 Luis

LOT

QUEZON CITY

L4000 Baler St. QC V-Lot 0919-4024987 • 929-8376

•New Manila•
3,300m² P19T/m² Neg. cor. Lot 7226578 / 7240394/ Glb 8387020

PROVINCIAL

1000sq.mtrs BANGKAL LAPU LAPU CITY 820-5935

4.5 Hectares Farm Lot
Davao City • 929-8376

Invest now & gain a lot in the future
Cavite Light Ind'l Park
With 1.98 Hec Commerical Blk.
Phase 1 Ready for Move-in
Phase II at Php. 1,600/sqm
Maguyam Rd. Carmona Cavite
Tel. 6314069/6358108 Jonathan
Brokers are Welcome

CONDO/TWNHSE/ APT

MAKATI

GREEN CASTLE REALTY INV
MAKATI / TOWNHOUSES
Sampaloc St. San Antonio Vill
Flr. Area 185.55 sqm
3BR / 3TB / 1 Garage P5.5M
(045)963-0060 / 963-0058

Only 9T++/mo.
2 own 2BR Condo nr Mkt & Mega Rdy 4 Occupancy! Come & visit Open House today! Call 6435104

MANILA

NR LA SALLE TAFT
Twnhse/4stry/3br/3tb/grge
P3.173M up 8903461 loc 34

MANDALUYONG

Lee Gardens Condo Studio 3BR EZ Pymt 534-6610 Jojo

Mandaluyong Condo 744T EZ Pymt Term 534-6610 Jojo

Various Condo/T'houses C2Appreciate 534-6610 -Jojo

Wack² Royale Mansion Parking P700T 633-7601/03

PASIG

RENNAISANCE 3000 FA235 3BR 2Prkg P8M • 634-1212

Sale / Rent Alexandra Condo 3br' 4tb Call 633-7601/03

Town-Hse Nr Capitol 8 3 Levels FA 81 P3.4 Neg. Call 634-1212

QUEZON CITY

2.5M Nr ABS-CBN
10% D.P. payable in 6 mos
Balance 10 or 15 years to pay
Call 926-4070 ; 924-1402

CUBAO Condo 1.4M 10% D.P. 9124428 9132224 9120647

CUBAO Condo 1.4M 10% D.P. 9124428 9132224 9120647

ST. IGNATIUS 3 LEVELS
FA158 3BR 3TB • 634-1212

Rush!TandangSora 3br+1md 2tb P2.4M 0917-5140997

SAN JUAN

Addin Hills Condo 182m² 2br Mds Rm Prkng P3.2M 726-1221/22 0917-8998767

OTHER AREAS

DUPLEX Cainta Country Homes RENT 2 OWN 0917-8960021

RESORT

Beachfront Calaca, Btgs. Ihaw 2 Cabins, 3 Fishponds 3 Cabanas, ViewOk, Strong Water, Elec/Tel Sale Rent 381-6953 • 47-8831/33 Liza

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

RESORT

Villa La Purisima Resort
Lubao Pampanga P35M (Neg.) 9 Hecs. w/ fence, TCT 2 Swim Pools w/ Slides 16 Cottages, Canteen Shower Rms.
7 Rms for Overnight 1 Pavillion, wide Parking 500 + Mango Tress 300+ Coco Trees, Piggery 7 Fish Ponds & Res. House (2Bedrms./CR) Interested Agents Welcome Contact: Beng 0919-8031795 047-2321191 / 3016

CLUB SHARE & MEMBERSHIP

Tagaytay-Clubshares
P100T • 0917-2559204

FACTORY/WHSE

WAREHOUSES
FACTORIES
LUCKY HAUS REALTY
Tel 9126020 9126021

WAREHOUSE
FOR SALE OR LEASE
- ONE STOREY CONCRETE
- FLR. AREA = 1,008 SQ.M.
- THREE PHASE ELECTRICITY BY MERALCO
- WITH DIRECT DIAL TELEPHONE LINE
- ABUNDANT WATER SUPPLY
- BULACAN AGRO-INDUSTRIAL SUBD. MALOLOS - CALUMPIT BOUNDARY

For inquiries, pls. call :
Lexber Realty Mgt. & Mktg.
3742584; 3723206
3719702 TO 04
410-8367 TO 69

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

APARTMENT

ALABANG

• New Apartment For Rent •
Up and Down 2 Bedrooms
Call 842-9178
Contact Mr. Alex Bagual
TS Cruz Ayala Alabang

MAKATI

3BR W/TEL PARKING 8446392

YAGUE Spacious 895-5699

MANILA

CONDO w/2 BRM SEMI-FUR TEL # 5630401 5630393

MANDALUYONG

Nr Boni City Hall UP n DN
532-1382 • 532-8724 / 33

QUEZON CITY

•P5.5T Studio T-9267419

HOUSE

MAKATI

SANLO DUPLEX 5260048

MANDALUYONG

Duplex nr to Wack² 3BR3TB Grg G'den Call-8315367 M-F 8am-5pm

PARANAQUE

4BR 3T&B 2CarGrge Basement 15T Ironeville 9285447 0917-8171173 / 0917-8403214

PROVINCIAL

STA. ROSA BAYAN 893-9279

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

2BR/1TB/Pkg 8093537/09178980782

SSH nr CASH & CARRY 1-3BR,56-115sqm 10-18T/mo P&L2 CONDO 551-2586

PASIG

Emerald Mansion 3BR FF 60T 412-1825 0917-7914366

VALLE1 P16T neg 2BR2TB 1prkg mdern spool 2420922

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

CONDO/TWNHSE

QUEZON CITY

Eastwood City 3br P25T 634-4266 • 635-3283 Ivy

FOR LEASE

LOT L-1209 Cong. Ave. QC Long Term Call 929-8376

Vacant LOT L-1012M Mindanao Ave. QC 929-8376

Vacant LOT L-903m² Mindanao Ave. QC P45T/mo. 929-8376

ROOM & BOARD

Apt. Ateneo San Beda Bar Review Outlet Aircon Nr Edsa Boni Tel. 532-2641

Cainta Female Only Gud for 1 Person Call 240-2513

New Ladies Dorm Nr UST Class"A" Tel.6451185/6810992

BEDSPACE

LADY BEDSPACERS
D. Tuazon nr Welcome Rtda
0916-5363191 Tessie

LOAN & MORTGAGE

2% w/o TAKING CAR 3670169

BUSINESS RENTAL

Infront City Hall 8.5T
534-8217 • 0917-3731252

LRI Bus Plaza Reposo
30-240sqm ideal 4 Ofc/Resto/
Cafe'/Gym/Spa/Bar/Derma
Call 8955470/8114438 M-F

Ofc / Clinic Mkna 646-8546

Office Or Business Space East Capitol Dr. 634-1212

Ortigas Office Sale / Rent 60 80 4000m² 412-1825 0917-7914366

SSH nr CASH & CARRY 45-92sqm Gr-3/F 10-25T/mo P&L 2 CONDO 551-2586

STRATA 2000 Ortigas P50T neg 250m² finished 2420922

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

BMW

95 BMW 525i White
Lito Tel#823-0981

HYUNDAI

99 Strx AT P480T 0917-9166364

MITSUBISHI

1995 Mit Galant V6 Fully Loaded First Owned Pls. Contact Liza, Roshel, Roger Tel. 533-9316 / 533-4718 / 643-8798 Fax 531-4136

M. PAJERO 2000MDL
White Orig 4x4 P1.250M
8558278 / 09177062403
& Astro Van 1997 P300T

Pajero Trooper Surf Mu Safari Terrano Dolica HiAce Suzuki Van Tx Pd 9126976; 9120647; 4381480

TOYOTA

83 Cresida Maroon P105T 633-3873 0918-9169320 Ana

VAN/PICK-UP

99 Urvan Shuttle 935-8336

OTHER CAR BRANDS

MEGA SALE
Lowest Price at Stake Few Items Left Cars / Vans / 4x4 / Pick-up Pls. Call 645-2366 • 645-7868 Text Msg. 0916-9006000

SPECIAL CARS

Dodge Carvan P150T 0917-8365539

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

BUSES/TRUCKS

ELF CANTER SUZUKI PORTER BONGO 9132224 9124428

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

L3•Cars• 9273453 4538295

Starex MB100
Coaster Bus
Call 631-3496 • 637-7396

ABC-CARS & VANS
Starex, Urvan, REVO, L300, HiAce, MB100, Allis, Honda, Celiro, Lancer, Corolla, Lynx, Corona, Exalta, Mazda, Sentra Open 24 hrs 536-8822/303-9789

BNEW VAN 8254058 8261045

Vans Coaster Bus 913-9123

Cars/Vans Cheap 8203894

FCU Car Rental
Daily Weekly Monthly
Toyota Honda Mit Van
Tel 722-8434 / 722-8438

IT/HIACE 9136710/4333682

L300 T7411356

L300/Vans 578-8917 (Roger)

MARIAN CARS BRIDAL VANS CSTER 8957247/8969956

Toyco Cars / Vans / Starex / Coaster / Rental 800-6595

WANTED TO BUY

BUYING USED CARS 8990215

CAR LOAN

1.25% w/o Taking Car 0919-7749942

1.5% FAST CAR LOAN 3677523/24

2% w/o Taking Car 8966633

2% w/o Taking Car 7228942/43

2% w/o taking car 7262700

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

2% w/oTaking Car 3646928

2% w/oTaking Car 3732083

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

FURNITURE

YAMAHA 3/4 GRAND PIANO Model C5 &C7: L-new7213124

YAMAHA PIANOS
Grand & Upright T7213124

PETS

DOG TRAINER 09192050952

DOG TRAINER 4528661

PHIL. DOG SCHOOL
LICENSED BY THE GOVT. 721-3736 / 0917-8483181

WANTED TO BUY

B/SELL FULY PD EDUC PLAN Gie 7137284 09177939632

BUYING ROLEX
others, High Price CASH 09178142309/7269687/4123543

ANY ROLEX
Buy / Sell / Pawn / Repair
Tel# 804-0484 • 834-2886

Buy/Pawn Diamonds T834-2886

WE BUY AT HIGH PRICE
ROLEX
5633742 5646593 09178473/44

WE BUY
GOLD
HIGHEST PRICE
CALL: 8390004
8390060

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

SPORTING GOODS

BILLIARDS P30/35/38T A1 Qlty B.New 8020566/8014494

Brnd New BILLIARD TABLE 1st Class 0916-4213989

MISCELLANEOUS

B/SELL EDUC'L PLAN 8061574

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

FEMALE

F-ESCORT • 0917-9593176

MED TECH 899-1459 or 0917-4108999 • 0918-3562777

Office Staff Female College Gard / Level Computer Literate Resident of Marikina / Cainta / Pasig Call 682-6715 Ms. Aguinaldo

Pre-School Teacher 9414361

SALE SEC W/ACCTG SKLS 22-25YRS SGL 92 4TH ST 7TH AVE CC

Widwife Skin Clinic 687-1762

MALE/FEMALE

*Ofc Staff 18-45y/o w/w/oexp Start asap 9134470 Grace

ACCOUNTING CLERK
Call 845-0733 Ofc Hrs

CARE GIVER T5280722

HAIRDRESSER
MANICURIST
CALL 896-6031 Loc 2011

★OFC STAFF 9134470 Armin★

★OFCSTAFF9134470RUBY ★

HRD STAFF • 09176163680 / April

★STAFF CALL GIA 9134470

Wanted
REGISTERED
MED-TECHNOLOGIST
CALL-044-8400019

PUBLIC NOTICES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Bar & Billiards w/ 2BR + TB Calumpang 0917-8143792

•Travel N Earn From Home•
earn-and-travel.com
8531008 (0917)8101851

Earn From Home w/ Travel
817-0524 • 0917-9200176

Earn From Home w/ Travel
295-2107 • 0917-8135609

I MADE P500,000.00/mo
Needs People To Train
Tel.# 536-8322

Infants Kids Wear 3738821

KAPITOLYO 4BR / 2TB + Ind Unit - P13M Vic 631-9792 687-0963 • 0917-5319792

Sell Unique & Reliable Products & Earn Big at your own Pace! Call 638-3344 on Weekdays!

Travel & Earn From Home 02-6870963 / 0917-5319792

TSHIRT SALE 0919-9976742

BALLOON
BUSINESS
BE PART OF THE
BOOMING
Balloon Business
FAST SELLING!!!
A ONE ON ONE
INTENSIVE WORKSHOP
TRAINING
INSTRUCTOR TRAINED
IN ATHENS, USA,
JAPAN,
ATLANTIC REGION
THE OFFICIAL
PHILIPPINE
REPRESENTATIVE FOR
THE INTERNATIONAL
BALLOON ARTS
CONVENTION 2002
LIMITED ENROLLMENT.
YOU MUST
PRE-REGISTER.
BALLOON
CAMP ASIA
532-3517
0917-8388000

We are an established publisher of several trade magazines and we are in need of the following:

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

Graduate of a college course in Journalism or its related field and preferably with experience in editing, layouting and copyreading of technical journals.

ADVERTISING SUPERVISOR

To direct marketing activities and programs. He or She should be able to sell advertising space and must have worked with reputable firms.

ADVERTISING SALESMAN

To assist in the sales.

TYPIST/STENOGRAPHER

- Female, 25 years old and above
- Graduate of a four-year college course
- With typing speed of 45 WPM and steno at 60 WPM

Qualified applicants are invited to send-in their bio-data with recent photo indicating their desired compensation package to:

P.O. Box 1295, Manila
or apply in person to:
626 Araneta Avenue, Quezon City
(infront of Funeraria Paz)

Starbinx
CAFE

Is looking for young, aggressive and dynamic individuals who will fill up positions for:

RESTAURANT SERVICE CREWS

- M/F 18-26 years old, college level with pleasing personality

RIDER

- Male 18-26 years old, with license, familiar with areas around Metro Manila

TELEMARKETER

- M/F 18-26 years old, college graduate, with good communication skills, preferably with experience in telemarketing

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

- M/F 18-26 years old, college graduate, with good communication and interpersonal skills, preferably with experience in this field

ADMIN. ASSISTANT

- M/F 18-26 years old, college graduate, with good communication skills, organized

• RESIDENTS OF QUEZON CITY, CALOOCAN CITY, PASIG CITY, MANDALUYONG CITY & MAKATI PREFERRED BUT NOT REQUIRED.

Apply in person at:
Unit 4 JS Gaisano Bldg.
Shaw Blvd., Pasig City
Look for Ms. Sharon Hazel Cerojales
Or call 632-9647-48

PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is given that the estate of the late **TRANQUILINO G. GUEVARRA** and **CARMEN T. GUEVARRA** was extrajudicially settled by their heirs as per Doc No. 306 Page No. 46 Book No. IV Series 2002 of Notary Public Amado E. Villafuerte of Quezon City May 8, 2002
(PDI-May 13, 20 & 27, 2002)

Notice is given that the estate of the late **LOPE L. UNAJAN** was extrajudicially settled among his heirs as per Doc #237, Page #49, Book #71, Series of 2002 Before Notary Public Atty. Juanito R. Dimaano of City of Marikina. (PDI-May 27, June 3, & 10 2002)

Notice is hereby given that the rights of the spouses PERFECTO B. ESPINO and EPIFANIA E. FUNG-ESPINO to the deed of conditional sale over a parcel of land (Lot 11 Block 59) situated at soldier's hills, Muntinlupa City, Metro Manila, Philippines, have been assigned to Edna Victoria E. Fung by virtue of a deed of assignment of rights and waiver executed by Epifania E. Fung-Espino and heirs of Perfecto B. Espino (per Doc. No. 2638, Page No. 28, Book No. VI, Series of 2002 of the Notarial Register of Notary Public Romeo C. Cruz of Quezon City, Metro Manila.PDI-May 13,20, 27 2002

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late Sps. Orlando and Edna Malan was extrajudicially settled to Sps. Ricardo and Anita Malan per Doc. No. 7810; Page No. 63; Book No. XVI; Series of 2002 before Notary Public Felipe I. Iledan Jr. of Makati City
PDI-May 20,27&June 3, 2002

PUBLIC NOTICES

PERSONAL

Thank You Holy Spirit
From: Eric Del Rosario & Family

Thank You Holy Spirit
From: Earl Roy Del Rosario & Family

Thank You Holy Spirit
From: Gemma Santos & Family

To: Marvin M.
I LOVE YOU
w/o Knowing How Why or Even From Where
Joj

NOVENA TO THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS AND SAINT JUDE

May the most Sacred Heart of Jesus be praised, blessed, loved, adored and glorified throughout the whole world now and forever. Amen.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. Pray for us.

St. Jude, worker of miracles, helper for the helpless, pray for us.

Say nine times a day for nine days. Prayer will be answered by the eighth day, it has never failed.

Thank you very much, Most Sacred Heart of Jesus and St. Jude, for favor granted.

NOVENA PRAYER

O Immaculate Virgin Mary, Mother of our Lord Jesus and our Mother, penetrated with the most likely confidence, in thy all-powerful and never failing intercession, manifested so often through the Miraculous Medal, with thy loving trustful children. Implore thee to obtain for us, the grace and favors we ask during the Novena, if they be beneficial to our immortal souls, and the souls for whom we pray. Thou knowest, O Mary, how our souls have been the sanctuaries of thy Son who hits inequity. Obtain for us then a deep hatred of sin and that purity of heart which will attach us to God alone so that our every thought, word and deed may tend to His greater glory. Obtain also for us a spirit of prayer and self-denial that we may recover by penance what we lost by sin and at length attain to that blessed abode where thou art the Queen of angels and of men. Amen.

PHILIPPINE DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

NOTICE TO DEPOSITORS OF THE CLOSED JADE PROGRESSIVE SAVINGS AND MORTGAGE BANK

All depositors of the closed Jade Progressive Savings and Mortgage Bank who have not yet filed their claims for insured deposits with the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation have until **June 13, 2002** to do so. To file your claim, just proceed to the designated payoff sites on the dates indicated in the table below. Receiving and processing of claims are scheduled from Monday thru Friday during office hours.

Name of JPSMB Banking Unit	Payoff Site	Duration of Payoff
Binondo, Head Office Divisoria Las Piñas Caloocan	JPSMB — Binondo, Head Office Located at the Ground Floor Birch Tree Plaza Bldg. 825 Muelle dela Industria Binondo, Manila	May 27 to June 13, 2002
Salcedo (Makati)	PDIC Claims Counter Located at the Ground Floor PDIC Building 2228 Chino Roces Avenue Makati City	June 3 to June 13, 2002

Depositors are advised to present the following requirements to the PDIC representatives when filing their claims for insured deposits:

1. Original evidence of deposit (i.e. savings passbook, certificate of time deposits and/or latest bank statement and unused check).
2. Two (2) latest identification cards/documents (IDs) with depositor's specimen signature.

Other documents may be required by the PDIC representatives in the course of claims processing.

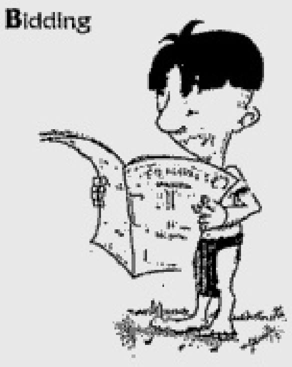
After **June 13, 2002**, PDIC as insurer shall no longer accept any claim for insured deposits maintained with the closed Jade Progressive Savings and Mortgage Bank.

PHILIPPINE DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

(PDI--May 27, 2002)

We accept Classified advertisements

Lines, **R**ecruitment, **O**bituaries, **B**idding



in Luzon

Bakit lalayo ka pa? Sa INQUIRER, *convenient na sulit pa!*

Baguio City
Mr. Avelino Nonog
Avel and Tria Newsstand, #12 Dahlia Alley
Maharlika Livelihood Center
Baguio City
Tel Nos. (074) 442-6689/443-4367
Cell No. (0919) 321-5020
Mr. Victor Navarro
Pines City News Agency
#2069 Mt. Province Alley
2nd Floor Maharlika Livelihood Center
Baguio City
Tel Nos. (074) 443-4533/442-5088/
443-4381/443-6524
Mr. Rey Elalan
Cora's News Agency
#6 City Market Building
Magsaysay Avenue, Baguio City
Tel Nos. (074) 443-8580/444-5098
Cell No. (0917) 505-7234
Mr. Juanito Castro c/o Ms. Ruby Castro
J & R Agency
Parking Lot Upper Mabini Street
(fronting Victoria Supermart) Baguio City
Tel No. (074) 444-6525
Cell No. (0919) 632-6322
Batangas City
Mr. Romero Clarin c/o Ms. Wilma C. Dayrit
RVC Newsstand, 7 P. Burgos Street
Batangas City
Tel Nos. (043) 723-4420/984-1523
Mr. Ramon P. Perez c/o Ms. Dodie Simon
Perez Educational & Magazine Store
R&S Perez Building, 46 D. Silang Street
Batangas City
Tel Nos. (043) 723-0616, (043) 980-6942
Bulacan
Mr. Manolo Iñigo c/o Ms. Thelma Iñigo
Fausta Village, Tabing-ilog, Marilao, Bulacan
Telefax No. (044) 933-1214
EasyCall 141-267284
Mr. Rodolfo D. Gregorio
263 Rizal Street, Tarcan, Baliwag, Bulacan
Tel No. (044) 766-1280
Office: Care Communications
Baliwag Shopping Center
2nd Floor BMG Building, Barrera Street
Poblacion, Baliwag, Bulacan
Cell No. (0919) 407-0048
Cabanatuan City
Mr. Ruel Capulo
#7 Santander Street, Kapt. Pepe Subdivision
Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija
Tel No. (044) 463-0823
Mr. Hayward Pablo
#837 Zuniga Street, Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija
Tel No. (044) 463-2602

Nueva Vizcaya
Himmler John L. Manzano c/o Ms. Jenny Manzano
Nueva Vizcaya Travel & Tours
Poblacion North Solano, Nueva Vizcaya
Telefax Nos. (078) 3267172/326-7776
Cell No. (0917) 848-3659
Pampanga
Mr. Noel Cabaero
Lot 4 Block 20 Phase II corner
St. Peter and St. Jude Streets, St. Jude Village
San Fernando, Pampanga
Tel Nos. (045) 963-3718 (0918) 505-6248
Gopido Building, Dolores Homesite, McArthur Highway
Dolores, San Fernando, Pampanga
Tel Nos. (045) 961-3787/860-4133
E-mail: chereum@pamp.pworld.net.ph
Pangasinan
Mr. Vic Chua
JVC Cargo Forwarders Co. Ltd.
243 Rizal Street, Calasiao, Pangasinan
Tel No. (075) 522-0505/517-5095
Mr. Mario Novales
Marigold Bookstore
AB Fernandez Avenue, Dagupan City, Pangasinan
Tel Nos. (075) 522-2323/515-2204
Fax No. (075) 522-0079
Mr. Herminio Romero
Romero's Trading
Rizal Street, Poblacion, Mangatarem, Pangasinan
Tel Nos. (075) 533-5504/523-5872
Puerto Princesa
Ms. Angelita Leonor c/o Ms. Mabel Mercado
Leonor's Minimart
[illegible] Building, E. Valencia Street, Puerto Princesa City
Tel Nos. (048) 433-2531/433-2051/433-6902
Mr. Tomas Chay Tan
40 Quezon Street, Puerto Princesa City
Tel No. (048) 433-2202
Cell No. (0910) 276-8118
Tuguegarao
Mr. Richmond Pobre
Agdamag Newsstand, Stall #7 Tuguegarao Central Market
Gomez Street, Tuguegarao, Cagayan
Tel Nos. (078) 844-1180/844-0364
E-mail: pobre@cag.pworld.net.ph
Tarlac City
Mr. Erlie I. Dudueco c/o E.D. Batteries
F. Tañedo Street, Tarlac City
Tel No. (045) 982-0653
Cell No. (0917) 448-0551
Fax No. (045) 982-1785
Laguna
Mr. Fernando B. Hemedez
Residence: #10 Marathon Street
Marquesa Pueblo Dos, Sta. Rosa, Laguna
Tel Nos. (049) 531-2778/837-3623
Cell No. (0917) 590-7060
Store: #250 J.P. Rizal Street, Cabuyao, Laguna
Tel No. (049) 531-4829

Laguna
Ms. Susan D. Baybay
MSC Data Exchange Co.
55 Paseo de Escudero, San Pablo City
Tel No. (049) 562-4597
Fax No. (049) 562-1444
E-mail: sbaybay@msc.edu.ph
Isabela
Ms. Alice Pua Uy
Lola's Store
Rizal Street, Cauayan, Isabela
Tel No. (076) 652-2279
Ms. Catalina Javier c/o Jojo Javier
Fredlin News & Magazine Agency
#34 City Road, Centro East, Santiago City, Isabela
Tel No. (078) 682-8652
Cell No. (0917) 918-8744
E-mail: fredeline@mozcom.com
Legaspi City
Ms. Irene Solmirano
Brgy. 34 Oro Site, Legaspi City
Tel Nos. (052) 820-1274/480-5028/5208402
Cathy P. Sendin
SM Prieto Marketing
Quezon Avenue, Legaspi City
Tel Nos. (052) 214-3043/214-3648/820-3748
Fax No. (052) 214-3043
Lipa City
Ms. Matilde Maniego c/o Ms. Rose Perce
Little Way Shop
Cathedral Commercial Center
CM Recto Avenue, Lipa City
Tel Nos. (043) 312-2169/312-2408/756-1330
E-mail: [illegible]@ala-eh.net
Naga City
Mr. Ramon S. Sia
RS Newspaper & Magazine Headquarters
Stall Nos. 33, 35 & 37, Ground Floor Supermarket
General Luna Street, Naga City
Tel No. (054) 473-8711
Quezon City
Mr. Antonio Feliciano c/o Ms. Jean
Germalin Enterprises
387 Tandang Sora Avenue, Culiat, Quezon City
Tel Nos. 951-7468/931-0156
Rizal
Mr. Jesus Dimagiba
191 Cor. Guido Street, Angono, Rizal
Tel Nos. 295-4353/651-0094
Cell No. (0917) 794-0432

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
NATIONAL
CLASSIFIEDS
The Widest Reaching Classifieds

The **PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER** enjoys the biggest circulation and readership among all the major broadsheets in the country. It has a dominant market share of over 55% according to the 2000 **Asia Research Organization (ARO)** Tri-Media Study.

Opportunity knocks but once.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER JOB MARKET

Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

Philippine Amusement & Gaming Corporation

Responding Through Responsible Gaming

INVITATION FOR PREQUALIFICATION AND TO BID

ITB No. 05-18-2002

In lieu of the 62 units Firearm requirement under ITB No. 04-15-2002, the Philippine Amusement & Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) is inviting all interested Authorized Dealers or Distributors of FIREARMS to prequalify in our forthcoming public bidding for the Supply and Delivery of the item described hereunder:

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	
	GLOCK 17	
124 UNITS	Caliber	: 9x19
	Barrel length	: 4.49 Inches
	Overall length (slide)	: 7.32 Inches
	Height including magazine	: 5.43 Inches
	Barrel rifling	: Hexagonal profile with right hand twist
	Magazine capacity	: 17 shots
	Action	: Safe Action Trigger System
	Finish	: Tenifer
	Frame	: Black Polymer
	Sight	: Fixed sight (illuminated dot)
	No. of magazines	: 3 pieces

Suppliers should primarily comply with PAGCOR's Accreditation requirements in order to participate in the pre-qualification proceedings. The Application Form for Accreditation is available at the **SUPPLIERS ACCREDITATION & EVALUATION DIVISION (SAED), PROCUREMENT & PROPERTY DEPARTMENT (PPD), 2nd Floor, PAGCOR House, 1330 Roxas Blvd., Ermita, Manila.**

For Pre-qualification, send a letter of intent addressed to **MR. GERWYN P. SEE**, Suppliers Accreditation & Evaluation Officer. All Accreditation and Pre-qualification documents should be submitted before 5:00 p.m. of Monday, **June 3, 2002**. Failure to comply with the requirements will render outright disqualification. Inquiries may be coursed through the **SUPPLIERS ACCREDITATION & EVALUATION DIVISION, Tel. No. 526-0573, Fax No. 523-2045.**

All pre-qualified prospective bidders shall be invited to attend a **PRE-BID CONFERENCE**, the schedule of which shall be relayed through telephone and/or formal letters.

ACCEPTANCE and **OPENING OF BIDS** shall be announced during the Pre-bid Conference.

PAGCOR reserves the right to disqualify any prospective bidder if found that they have submitted falsified documents and/or information, and the right to accept or reject any or all bids, to annul the bidding process, to waive any defects or formalities found therein and to accept such bid or a part thereof as may be deemed most advantageous to PAGCOR, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

Please address all communications to the undersigned.

(Sgd.) **CARMENCITA A. ESPINOSA**
Chairman
Bids & Awards Committee (BAC) "B"

(PDI - May 25 & 27, 2002)

Avail of the **Business Migration Opportunity** of a lifetime for you and your Family!

For the price of a house in Greenhills or Alabang, you can own an Award-winning Winery and vineyard in New South Wales, Australia. Enjoy the clean and beautiful environment while sending your kids to Asia's top universities.

Experience the Business and Lifestyle Advantage Australia has to offer including:

Political stability, Low crime rate, Fair play, and Balanced lifestyle.

Qualify for permanent residency after 1 year*

In addition, we can provide professional services and assistance in the areas of:

1. **Business Establishment & Management**
2. **Relocation**
3. **Lifestyle planning**
4. **Migration referral**
5. **Other Advice and Referrals**

Please send expressions of interest complete with resumés and evidence of good character to:

PO Box 606, Milsons Point,
Sydney, NSW 1565
Australia
Ph: +61 (418) 972-586
Fax: +61 (2) 9489-9869
All applications are confidential
*laws and conditions govern

PNOC-ENERGY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Energy Complex, Merritt Road
Fort Bonifacio, Makati City
Tel. No. 893-1320, Local 5285

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND BID

The PNOC-Energy Development Corporation invites eligible suppliers to apply and submit sealed bids for the supply and delivery of the following:

One (1) set Free Point Equipment under FGO-20701

This invitation is open to all pre-qualified suppliers of PNOC-Energy Development Corporation. Interested suppliers not pre-qualified with PNOC-Energy Group of Companies as of this invitation are required to submit pre-qualification documents for our future requirements.

Bid documents shall be available for issuance at the above address c/o **Raffy S. Teylan** starting **May 24, 2002** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **P100.00**.

For purposes of clarifying certain issues, a pre-bid conference will be held on **June 04, 2002, at 2:00 p.m.** at PNOC-EDC Purchasing Conference Room, 2nd Floor, Building 5.

All bids must be accompanied by a bid security to be issued by the local agent/distributor, if any, with the amount indicated in the tender document, in the form acceptable to PNOC-EDC and must be delivered to the above office on or before **2:00 p.m. of June 24, 2002**. Public opening of bids shall follow immediately thereafter. **Late bids will not be accepted.**

PNOC-Energy Development Corporation reserves the right to annul the bidding process, to reject any or all bids, to waive any informality in the bids received and to accept such bid which is most advantageous to PNOC-EDC without thereby incurring liability to the affected bidder or bidders or any obligation to inform the affected bidder or bidders of the ground for PNOC-EDC's action.

(Sgd.) **SERGIO A.F. APOSTOL**
Chairman/President & CEO

(PDI--May 27 & June 14, 2002)

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
EIGHTH JUDICIAL REGION
BRANCH 9
TACLOBAN CITY

Land Reg. Case No. 093 **LRA Record No. N-70221**

NOTICE OF INITIAL HEARING

To the Hon. Solicitor General, Office of the Solicitor General, 134 Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City; the Director, Land Management Bureau, Escolta, Manila; the Regional Executive Director, Region VIII, DENR, Tacloban City; the Hon. Secretary, Department of Public Works and Highways, Bonifacio Drive, Port Area, Manila; the Hon. Secretary, Department of Agrarian Reform, P.T.A. Bldg., Elliptical Road, Diliman, the Director, Forest Management Bureau, Visayas Avenue, Diliman, both in Quezon City, Metro Manila; the Provincial Governor, the Provincial Prosecutor, the General Services Officer, the Provincial Engineer, Tacloban City; the Public Works and Highways District Engineer, DPWH, 1st Engineering District, Pawing, Palo, Leyte; the CENR Officer, CENRO, Land Management Sector, Tacloban City; the Municipal Mayor, the Municipal Council, Palo, Leyte; AND TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN;

An application having been filed in the above-entitled case by MSGR. PEDRO R. DEAN, Chancery, Palo, Leyte, assisted by Atty. Sergio C. Sumayod, 19 Real St., Tacloban City praying for the registration and confirmation of the title to the following described land with improvement thereon.

A parcel of land designated as (Lot 1296 of Cad. 407, as shown on plan Ap-08-000430), situated in the Barangay of Cogon, San Joaquin, Municipality of Palo, Province of Leyte, Island of Leyte. Bounded on the NE., point 4 to 1 by National Road; on the SE., SW., & NW., points 1 to 2, point 2 to 3, point 3 to 4 by Road. Beginning at a point marked "1" on plan, being S. 39 deg. 51'E., 1914.75 m. from BLLM No. 1, Palo Cadastre.

thence S. 62 deg. 29'W., 51.54 m. to point 2;
thence N. 25 deg. 39'W., 32.67 m. to point 3;
thence N. 61 deg. 07'E., 50.80 m. to point 4;
thence S. 27 deg. 00'E., 33.86 m. to the point of

beginning, containing an area of ONE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED ONE (1,701) SQUARE METERS, more or less. All points referred to are indicated on the plan and are marked on the ground by Old PS. cyl. conc. mons. 15x60 cm. dia.; bearings grid; date prepared, October 29, 1991, and was approved by the Regional Technical Director, DENR, Land Management Service, Region 08, Tacloban City on November 19, 1991.

You are hereby served this notice to appear before this Court at its session to be held at Regional Trial Court, Branch 9, Tacloban City, Philippines, on the 11th day of July, 2002, in the morning session, then and there to present such claim as you may have to said land or any portion thereof, and to submit evidence in support of such claim and unless you appear at said Court at the time and place aforesaid, your default will be recorded and the title to the land will be adjudicated and determined in accordance with law and the evidence before the Court and thereafter you will forever be barred from contesting said application (or petition) or any decree entered thereon.

Witness: the HON. ROGELIO C. SESCON, Judge of said Court, the 13th day of December, 2001.

Issued at Quezon City, Philippines, this 12th day of February, 2002.

ATTEST;

(Sgd.) **BENEDICTO B. ULEP**
Administrator
Land Registration Authority

By:

(Sgd.) **SALVADOR L. ORIEL**
Chief, Docket Division

(PDI--May 27, 2002)

Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas
Manila, Philippines

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

INVITATION TO BID

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) will conduct a bidding for the supply of labor, tools, materials, consumables and supervision for the repair of various kitchen equipment at the Second Floor and Third Floors, Cafetorium Building per BSP specifications and scope of works not later than **10:00 AM** on **June 11, 2002**.

Subject to the submission of photocopies of the following documents (original of items 1 and 2 to be presented for authentication purposes), bid documents may be obtained from the Manager II, Procurement Division II, Administrative Services Department, Room 213, Second Floor, 5-Storey Building, BSP Complex, corner A. Mabini and P. Ocampo Streets, Malate, Manila, Tel. Nos. 523-6427; 525-0048.

1. Articles of Incorporation and Business Registration Papers;
2. Year 2001 Audited Financial Statements (Balance Sheet & Income Statement);
3. Y2001 Income Tax Returns;
4. Company history/profile of the bidder; and
5. List of local clients (complete with their addresses/telephone/fax numbers).

Only those who comply with the above requirements will be allowed to participate in the bidding. The two-envelope system shall be adopted in the bidding.

A pre-bid conference shall be held on **June 7, 2002** at **2:00 PM**, Room 213, 5-Storey Building.

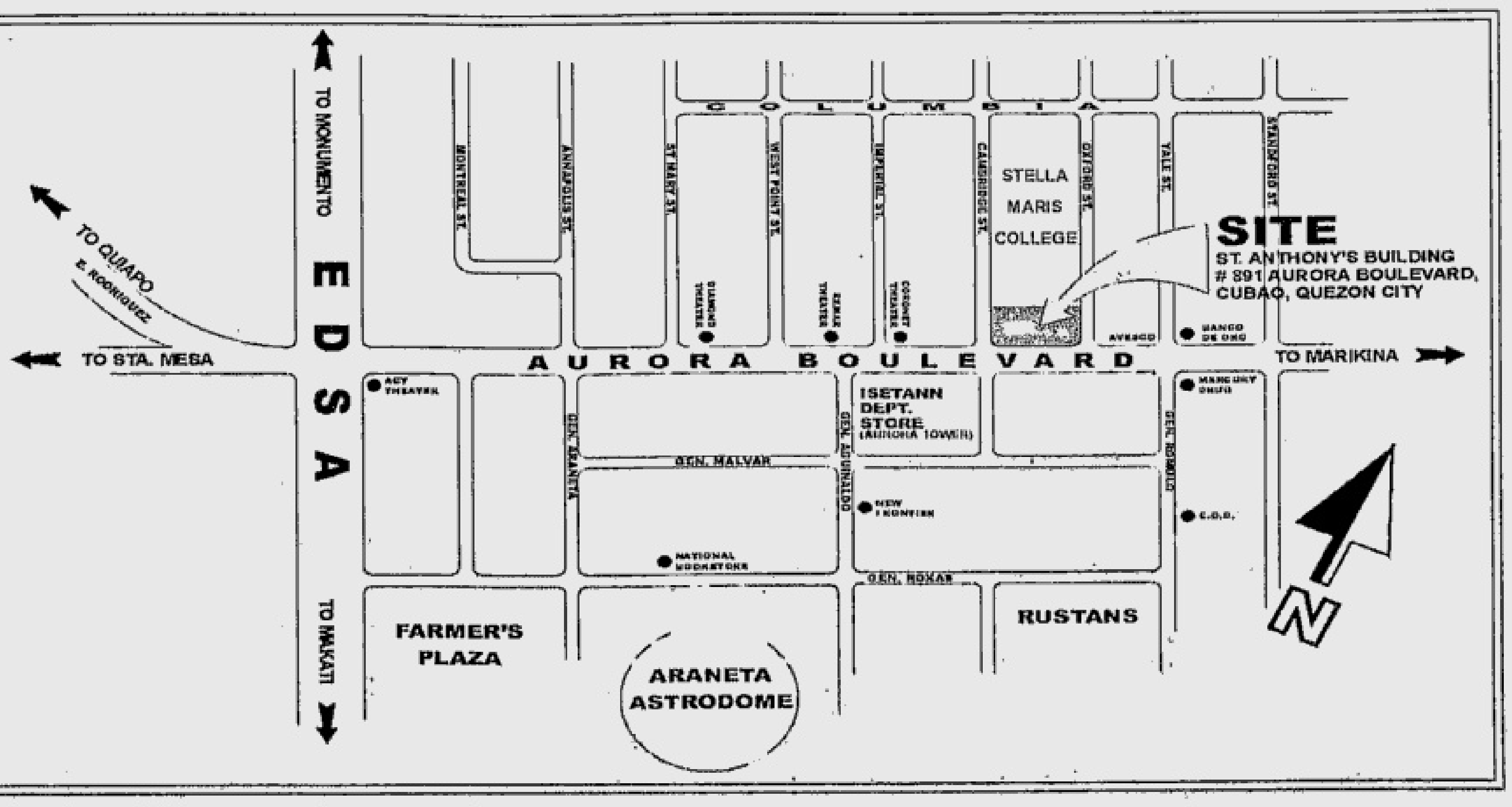
The BSP hereby reserves the right to reject any or all bids, as well as to waive any defects or informality in such bids, and to accept such bids as may be considered most advantageous to the Bank.

(Sgd.) **MA. ODILIA B. DEL CASTILLO**
Officer-In-Charge

(PDI -- May 27, 2002)

INQUIRER CLASSIFIEDS

Aurora branch is now open to serve your Classified Ads requirements.
For inquiries, please call



YORK (U.S.A.) CASKETS
... because they deserve only the best.
*For more information, please call your funeral director.

OBITUARIES

RATE
P230 per column centimeter
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINE
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Monday to Sunday
12:00 noon
Day before publication

Message of Thanks

For visiting us and being with us in our time of sorrows...
For praying with us and for us...
For the Mass cards and messages of sympathy and condolence...
For the beautiful flowers to express compassion...
For joining us in our nightly vigils...
For attending the Masses and funeral rites...
For thinking of us in our hour of grief...
For all that you have done to console our hearts...

Our sincerest gratitude.
From the family of the late

Diego H. Gutierrez

For your Classified Ads requirements, call our Classifieds Advertising HOTLINES:

HEAD OFFICE: 897-8808 loc. 514, 516
899-4425; 897-2535; 897-8425 (Telefax)
CUBAO: 912-9008 to 11 (Aurora)
MAKATI: 892-5578; 811-4361; 811-4370
KALAW: 528-0213; 527-3342
MEGAMALL: 635-0219; 635-0220

RENATO C. TRIBDINO

Retiree of United Laboratories, Inc.

Died in the Grace of our Lord on May 25, 2002 at the age of 65.

His body lies in state at Sto. Domingo Church, Quezon Ave., Quezon City.

Interment will be on May 28, 2002 at the Holy Cross Memorial Park, Novaliches, Quezon City.

JOSE DE LEON PALMA

of
Balanga, Bataan and Bacood, Sta. Mesa, Manila

Joined his Creator on May 23, 2002
at the age of 93.

He is survived by his loving wife **ANGELA QUINTOS PALMA**; daughter **FLORECITA**; son **VIRGILIO**; son-in-law **DR. RAUL A. LIMJUCO**; grandsons **ALBERT** and **ALEXANDER**; brothers **ANDRES** (†) and **SIMEON** (†); sisters **CRESCENCIA CAMACHO** (†) and **JOSEFA LEYNES** (†); nieces **THERESITA P. MEDRANO, MA. LOURDES P. VARONA, LOURDES L. BAUTISTA, JOSEFINA L. REYES, DOLORES P. FERNANDEZ** and nephew **DANTE PALMA**, and other relatives.

His remains lie in state at the Loyola Memorial Chapels, Guadalupe, Makati City, where there will be a final Mass on May 28, 2002 at 8 in the morning. Interment follows immediately at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City.

THE CONGREGATION OF THE
IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY (CICM)

requests your prayers for

REV. FR. HERMAN HENDRICKX, CICM

born in Tienen, Brabant, Belgium on May 23, 1933,
he died in Quezon City on May 25, 2002,
at the age of 69.

He served as professor and scholar in biblical interpretation at the San Carlos Seminary of the Archdiocese of Manila, Maryhill School of Theology of CICM, and as visiting lecturer and speaker in various institutions. He is author of several books on the gospels and other New Testament books.

His remains lie in state
at the CICM Provincial House
at No. 60, 14th Street, New Manila Quezon City until May 28, 2002
and at the Maryhill School of Theology Lobby
No. 85, 13th Street, New Manila, Quezon City
from May 28, 2002 at 10:00 a.m. until May 29, 2002 at 8:00 a.m.
A Memorial Mass will be held at the Mt. Carmel Church in Broadway, Quezon City
on Wednesday, May 29, 2002 at 9:00 a.m.,
after which his remains will be transferred to the Maryhurst Seminary Chapel in Baguio City.
Interment will be on May 30, 2002 (Thursday), at the CICM Cemetery
after the 9:00 a.m. Mass of the Resurrection at the Maryhurst Seminary Chapel, Baguio City.

PLEASE PRAY TO THE LORD FOR HIS ETERNAL REPOSE.

My Soul finds rest to God alone;
from Him comes my salvation.
Psalm 62:2

Our Dearly beloved Tatay

JOSE "Peping" VALENZUELA GONZALES, SR.

Peacefully joined his Creator on May 26, 2002 at the age of 71.

His late wife **Bella** (†); loving children and in-laws **Joel** and **Les**, **Jerry** and **Annette**, **Pepot** and **Ku**, **Bea** and **Eman**, **Jim** and **Beth**, **Bess** and **Cris**, **Third** and **Teeny**; grandchildren **Koko**, **Pipo**, **Quino**, **Bella**, **Celina**, **Alfonso**, **Betina**, **Izza**, **Mikki**, **Timmy**, **Dan**, **Isay**, **Bryan** & **Luis**; relatives and friends request the pious readers to thank the Lord Jesus Christ for the gift of salvation bestowed upon Tatay.

His remains lie in state at the Loyola Memorial Chapels, Inc., Guadalupe, Makati City.

Interment will be on May 30, 2002 after the 8:00 a.m. Mass at Premier 2.

I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.
John 14:6

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

INQUIRER OBITUARIES

• DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT • MESSAGE OF THANKS • DEATH ANNIVERSARY • REQUIEMS • FREE OBIT DESIGN •

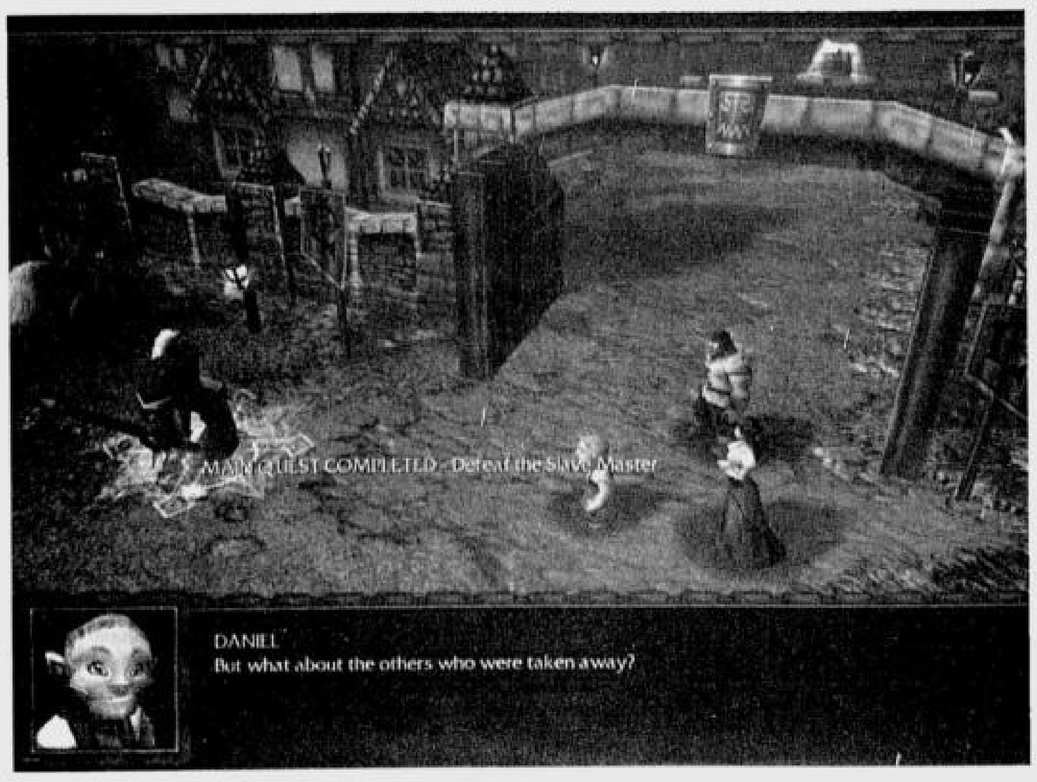
For the needs of your departed Loved Ones, the following establishments can help you.

ARLINGTON MEMORIAL CHAPEL
12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City; Tels. 715-1025; 715-1031; 715-1027
ARLINGTON EAST THE GARDEN CHAPELS
C. Raymundo St. cor. Mercedes Ave., San Miguel Ave., Pasig City
Tels. 747-8599; 747-8609 • Telefax 641-1760
AUREA QUIOGUE FUNERAL HOMES
243 A.B. Fernandez Ave., Dagupan City, Pangasinan
Tels. (0785) 522-3451; 522-2128; (0917) 434-9976
CAPITOL MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
1305 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City; Tel. 732-0309; 732-1095
CEBU ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
Cebu Branch: A.S. Fortuna Street, Banilad, Mandaue City, Cebu • Tels. 346-2543; 346-2601
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Nivel Hills, Lahug, Cebu City; Tels. 231-0721; 231-3192
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Camus Ext. cor. J. Abad Santos, Davao City; Tels. (082) 227-1201; 227-1258
DAYAO FUNERAL HOME
#2 Bayani St., Galas, Quezon City • Tels. 740-2683; 781-3705; 781-3688; 413-9400; 715-5594
DALLUAY MEMORIAL SERVICES
#42 Upper Kalaklan, Olongapo City
Tels. (047) 222-3605; (047) 811-1086; (047) 222-4512; (047) 224-2014
DON BOSCO CHAPELS
Pasay Road, Makati City; Tel. 894-5932 to 34
DULCE MEMORIAL SERVICES
Jose Abad Santos Ave. cor. Dinalupihan St., Manuguit, Manila
Tels. 712-5102; 741-5125; 741-5133; Fax No. 711-3064
FLORESCO FUNERAL HOME
219 Gen. Luna St., Concepcion, Malabon, Metro Manila • Tels. 2812963; 2813034; 2810522
FUNERARIA FILIPINAS
187 Real St., Zapote-Alabang, Las Pinas; Tels. 873-0507/873-0024
865 J.P. Rizal St., Poblacion, Makati City; Tels. 890-3556/899-8191
FUNERARIA PANGILINAN
Santo Entierro cor. P. Burgos St., Lourdes Sur, Angeles City • Tels. (045) 888-2959 ; (045) 322-5247
PAKET SANTIAGO MEMORIAL HOMES
13 V. Gomez St., San Roque, Marikina City; Tels. 646-1725; 646-1730
FUNERARIA ANGEL QUIOGUE
No. 67 Pasig Boulevard Extension, Pasig City; Tels. 641-7809; 641-1735
M. Almeda St., Pateros, Metro Manila; Tels. 642-3010; 633-3602
FUNERARIA TUASON
Poblacion, San Miguel, Bulacan 3011 • Tels. (044) 764-0281; 678-0266; (0917) 895-0603
FUNERARIA SAMSON
145 Bayan Luma, Imus, Cavite; Tels. (046) 471-3375; 471-2675
GARDEN OF MEMORIES MEMORIAL PARK
Calsadang Bago, Pateros, Metro Manila; Tels. 642-6181 to 82

HOLY TRINITY MEMORIAL CHAPELS
Sucat, Parañaque City; Tels. 825-1296; 825-1291
LA FUNERARIA LAWRENCE BAQUIRAN
#27 Crisologo St., Vigan, Ilocos Sur; Tel. 722-2730;
Cell (0917) 5680136; (0917) 5680145
Manila #23 Pato St., Project 2, Quezon City; Tel. 434-3258
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
1501 C.M. Recto Ave. cor. T. Mapua, Manila; Tels. 711-6931 to 35; 732-4795
143 G. Araneta Ave. cor. Kaliraya St., Quezon City;
Tels. 749-3806 to 11; 712-3001; 743-6502 or 05
79 Naguilian Rd., Baguio City; Tel. (074) 443-3337; (074) 442-3117
LOYOLA MEMORIAL CHAPELS
EDSA cor. Bernardino St., Guadalupe, Makati City; Tel. 895-1011 to 19
LOYOLA MEMORIAL PARK CHAPELS & CREMATORY SERVICES
Loyola Memorial Park, A. Bonifacio Avenue, Tañong, Marikina City
Tel. Nos. 941-3196 to 98, 941-3676; Telefax 941-3577
MARIAN MEMORIAL CHAPELS
Marcos Hiway, Antipolo, Rizal; Tels. 645-1855; 682-0209; 682-0210
MT. SINAI MEMORIAL CHAPEL
Arellano St., Dagupan City • Tels. (075) 515-5960; 515-6529; 522-8783, (0919) 348-7131
NACIONAL MEMORIAL HOMES
264 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City • Tels. 713-5231 to 35; 714-0867; 714-0868
POPULAR MEMORIAL CHAPELS, INC.
214 Rizal Ave., Sta. Cruz, Manila; Tel. No. 254-0867; 254-0839
ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
Ground Flr. Rolling Hills Chapel, 27th-Lacson St., • Mandalagan, Bacolod City; Tel. 433-7132
RIZAL FUNERAL HOMES
438 Cementina St., Pasay City; Tels. 831-1204
Sucat Branch: 8187 Dr. A. Santos Ave., Sucat, Parañaque City
Tels. 826-1376; 826-9682, (0915) 712-1220
SANTUARIO DE SAN ANTONIO PARISH
Forbes Park, Makati City; Tel. Nos. 843-8838/30, Fax No. 843-9223
SANTUARIO DE SAN JOSE PARISH
East Greenhills, Mandaluyong City; Telefax 724-4139, 725-2044
ST. ALPHONSUS MARY DE LIGOURI PARISH
Magallanes Village, Makati City; Tels. 852-8228, 852-7284
ST. MARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL
16-15 G. Tuazon cor. Loreto St., Sampaloc, Manila; Tels. 749-3679; 781-1772
ST. PETER FUNERAL HOMES
296 Quezon Ave., Quezon City; Tels. 372-5084, 410-9286/87
VERONICA MEMORIAL HOMES
Official NBI Morgue 517-A Arnaiz St., Pasay City • Tels. 831-3797, 844-7846, 843-1801, 845-4838
WELINGTON FUNERAL SERVICES
1511 Gen. Luna St., Paco, Manila; Tels. 522-8846, 522-9438, 400-5394

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS: ❶ Copy of Death Certificate ❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS and bank-to-bank payments



MAIN QUEST COMPLETED - Defeat the Slave Master

DANIEL
But what about the others who were taken away?

SCREEN SHOT from Warcraft III's single-player campaign, which was not available in the beta release we received.

Online games . . .

From page B20

This time around, the titanic battle between Orcs and Humans in the realm of Azeroth has risen to a four-race war joined by the Night Elves, a race that derives its power from nature, and the Undead, which thrives on death and decay. The fifth race, the Demons, is a non-playable race seen in single-player campaigns.

Beta for the chosen few

The purpose of the beta, released to the fortunate few worldwide, is to balance the units from the different races by having real players battle each other online through Blizzard's online service Battle.net. For this reason, the single-player campaign wasn't included in the trial.

We fired up the computer, installed the CD and eagerly logged into Battle.net. We ended up face to face—not with Orcs, not Humans—but with a download screen! A pretty big patch was required for a download lasting some 30 minutes on our DSL connection at the office. We waited patiently, and when it was finally done, we restarted the game—more excited than ever to play—and got another pop-up screen! Fine. Fifteen more minutes. With a much shorter fuse, we waited and restarted once again. We were about to give up when a third patch was required. Fortunately, it took only five minutes. One last restart and we were finally in.

The Battle.net interface was quite appealing. There was a chat screen, and you could see the players with a unit portrait beside their name. Online games are ranked via a ladder system, and the better your win-loss standing, you get a higher level and a matching higher-level unit portrait. Our character portrait was the Orc peon. There were links to various channels where we could chat, but we weren't interested. There were two modes available for starting a game—one for ladder matches and one for practice games.

PERSONAL COMPUTER

We review this game on the PC platform

The ladder system worked by automatically pitting you against someone with an equivalent ranking in the network, so a player couldn't fake a high win-loss record by fighting against friends who would intentionally lose their games. In the practice matches, you could join any game you like.

The game itself is stunning. Visually, it is easily the best-looking RTS game we have ever seen. Blizzard made the game fully 3D, and scrolling the mouse wheel up or down changes your perspective of the battlefield. The terrain and units feel familiar to those who have played previous Blizzard games, but are now more beautiful than ever—like that geeky girl you never took notice of in high school, until she grew into the sexiest chick in campus.

There are also new elements in gameplay. The most noticeable is the addition of Hero units. Heroes are units that can only be summoned once. Each race has three different Heroes a player can choose from, all equipped with special abilities. There is usually one Hero unit that is powerful in combat, a Hero that is a good spell caster and a Hero that has a balance between both. The Human faction can choose between the Paladin, the Archmage, and the Mountain King. The Orcs have the Blademaster, the Farseer and the Tauren King. The Night Elves have the Demon Hunter, the Keeper of the Grove and the Priestess of the Moon. Finally, the Undead race have the Death Knight, the Dread Lord, and the Lich. Hero units can gain experience points when killing enemies and gain levels when enough experience is earned, giving the player access to the hero's special abilities. Heroes can also pick up items that are dropped by neutral units in the game. If ever the heroes die, each race can build a structure that can revive their slain hero.

Neutral units are also a new element. Before, there used to be just critters—generally useless animals that roam around the map. Those critters still exist, but in addition there are actually monsters that guard gold mines and stores, giving the player the opportunity to bring in his Hero to practice kicking some ass and gain a few levels before actually getting to battle the enemy. This also guards against players expanding to new gold mines too rapidly.

Races of Azeroth

Trying out the four different races of Azeroth, we felt the unmistakable differences in their gameplay. Humans are the most familiar race to play, and should be very easy to jump into. One of the new features with Humans is the "call to arms" button in the town center that can temporarily turn your workers into militiamen and fend off an impending attack. Afterwards, you can order them to return to town and resume their previous tasks.

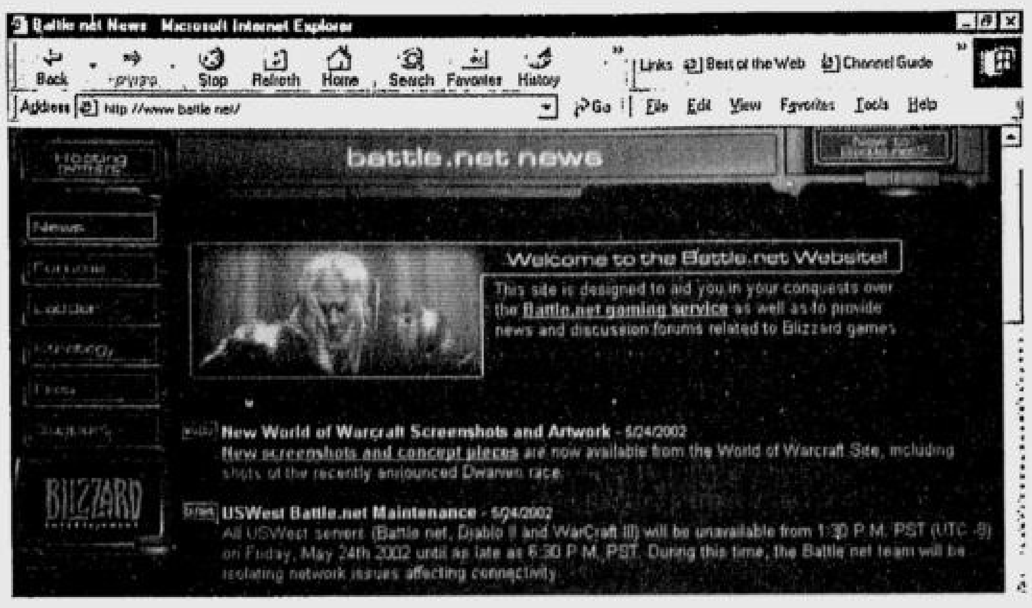
Orcs are somewhat like Humans, although their units take longer to build but are generally stronger. This is the race we played (and usually lost with) the most, but we especially enjoyed the Blademaster Hero, a powerful melee character that had the "Critical Strike" ability—it always has a chance to deal additional damage.

The Undead build their units very quickly, but a new player will have difficulty adjusting to this race. Their basic peon unit, the Acolyte, can only gather gold, leaving the wood-gathering to their basic creature unit, the ghoul. Ghouls are frighteningly easy to build though, and make a very effective rush unit.

The Night Elves' units take long to build, but their town center, the Tree of Life, can be uprooted to fight alongside its units and defend the town from attackers.

Managing battles has evolved for Warcraft III. In Starcraft, the best players were the ones who could manage their economy most efficiently—the one who could pump out the most units and expand to the most areas usually wins the game. In Warcraft III, you have to manage your battles efficiently in order to win, because rapid expansion and army-building are no longer options. A good player has to make good use of his units' individual strengths and special powers to be able to turn the tide of battle in his favor.

Blizzard's play balancing isn't done yet—there's a big new patch that's waiting for us the next time we log into Battle.net—but it seems like they are on track to release the game around July this year. Also available is the collector's edition of the game, which costs a whopping $75 (roughly P4,000) but contains goodies such as a coffee-table book featuring artwork from all three Warcraft games, and others that the Warcraft fanatic can't afford to miss (or just plain can't afford). For now, we'll just have to wait until the PC finishes downloading the latest patch.



Welcome to the Battle.net Website!

This site is designed to aid you in your conquests over the Battle.net gaming service as well as to provide news and discussion forums related to Blizzard games.

New World of Warcraft Screenshots and Artwork - 5/24/2002
New screenshots and concept pieces are now available from the World of Warcraft Site, including shots of the recently announced Dwarven race.

USWest Battle.net Maintenance - 5/24/2002
All USWest servers (Battle.net, Diablo II and WarCraft III) will be unavailable from 1:30 P.M. PST (UTC -8) on Friday, May 24th 2002 until as late as 6:30 P.M. PST. During this time, the Battle.net team will be isolating network issues affecting connectivity.

GET more Warcraft III updates and screen shots from the Battle.net website

Computer . . .

From page B20

most part, it's been overhyped," he explained.

Martin emphasized the need to strike the right balance between making the public aware of the real dangers posed by cyberterrorism and scaremongering. Hype and near-hysteria also accompanied the Y2K problem, with some sectors, inadvertently or not, equating it with the end of the world as we know it in their desire to educate people, businesses and governments and combat apathy.

In a separate interview, Matthew Gyde, director for Asia Pacific of network security firm Secure Computing Corp., agreed that cyberterrorism has become a catchphrase and received too much hype.

Asked how security companies can educate the public without causing a scare, Gyde said: "The solution to that is to say it (cyberterrorism) does exist. Let's say someone decides to take down the Philippines. Banks can be targeted and so on. These dangers exist. A lot of people don't react to that so the industry has to give a bit of a fright."

He added that he believes Asia is more vulnerable to security threats from hackers—talking about hackers in general, not necessarily 'cyberterrorists.

"If a European group of hackers decides to target Asia, then Asia's in trouble," Gyde said.

He explained that this is because a number of companies here must still be educated that security is not just the firewall and that many components must work together.

"But I see that situation changing rapidly. We see a lot of companies committing to security, particularly after 9-11," Gyde added.

For his part, Martin said that he agrees that governments should take extra measures to combat the possible threat of cyberterrorism.

"It's sad that it took 9-11 to do that," Martin said.

Powerpoint slide imports

IF you're preparing a presentation using Powerpoint, and would want to add some slides from an existing presentation, here's how to do it :

POWERTIPS

(1) Open a new or existing slide.

(2) Select "Insert" then "Slide" from "Files."

(3)A "Slide Finder" dialogue box will appear.

(4) Browse for the location of the slide(s) to be imported.

(5) Select "Display" and then "Insert" or "Insert All."

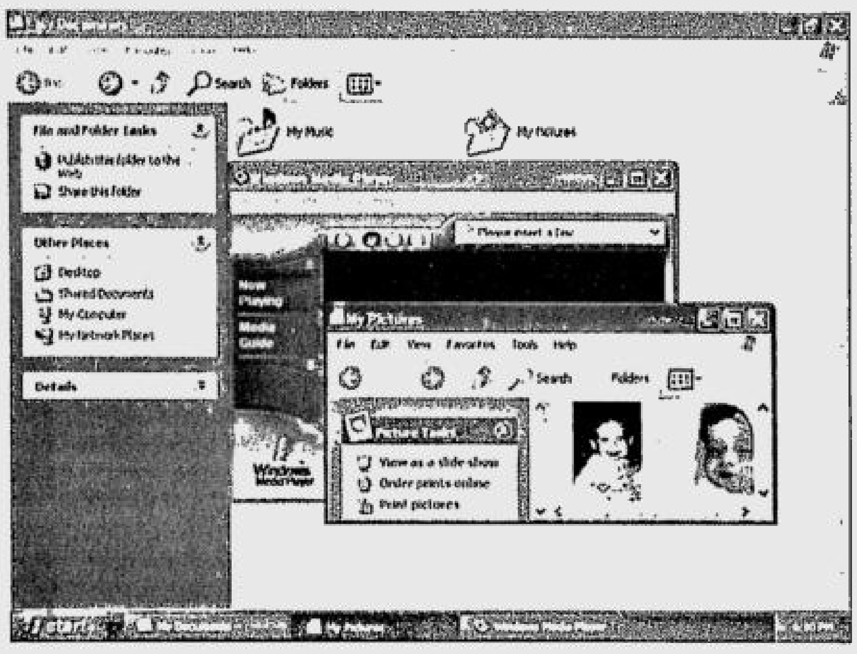
(6) Repeat steps 2 to 5 to insert slides from other files.

For more tips, visit http://www.brainshare.com.ph We would like to invite our readers to join The Powertips Group. Register online and receive free tips via e-mail. *Jerry Liao*

Does Windows XP have the experience you want?

By Jerry Liao

THIS week, we take a look at Microsoft's Office XP, a suite of office productivity software for the XP platform.



THE BOTTOM LINE

Strengths

(1) A new look and feel and more collaboration tools.

(2)Built-in voice recognition system.

(3) Office Smart Tags—buttons giving the user options to change any given action or error.

(4)Task Panes—integrates search, a clipboard manager, frequently used documents, templates and more.

(5) New recovery features that protect your documents.

Weaknesses

(1) Requires 210 Mb of disk space

(2)Won't work with Windows 95

(3)No support for animated GIF files in Powerpoint.

(4)Vulnerability issues in Outlook 2002

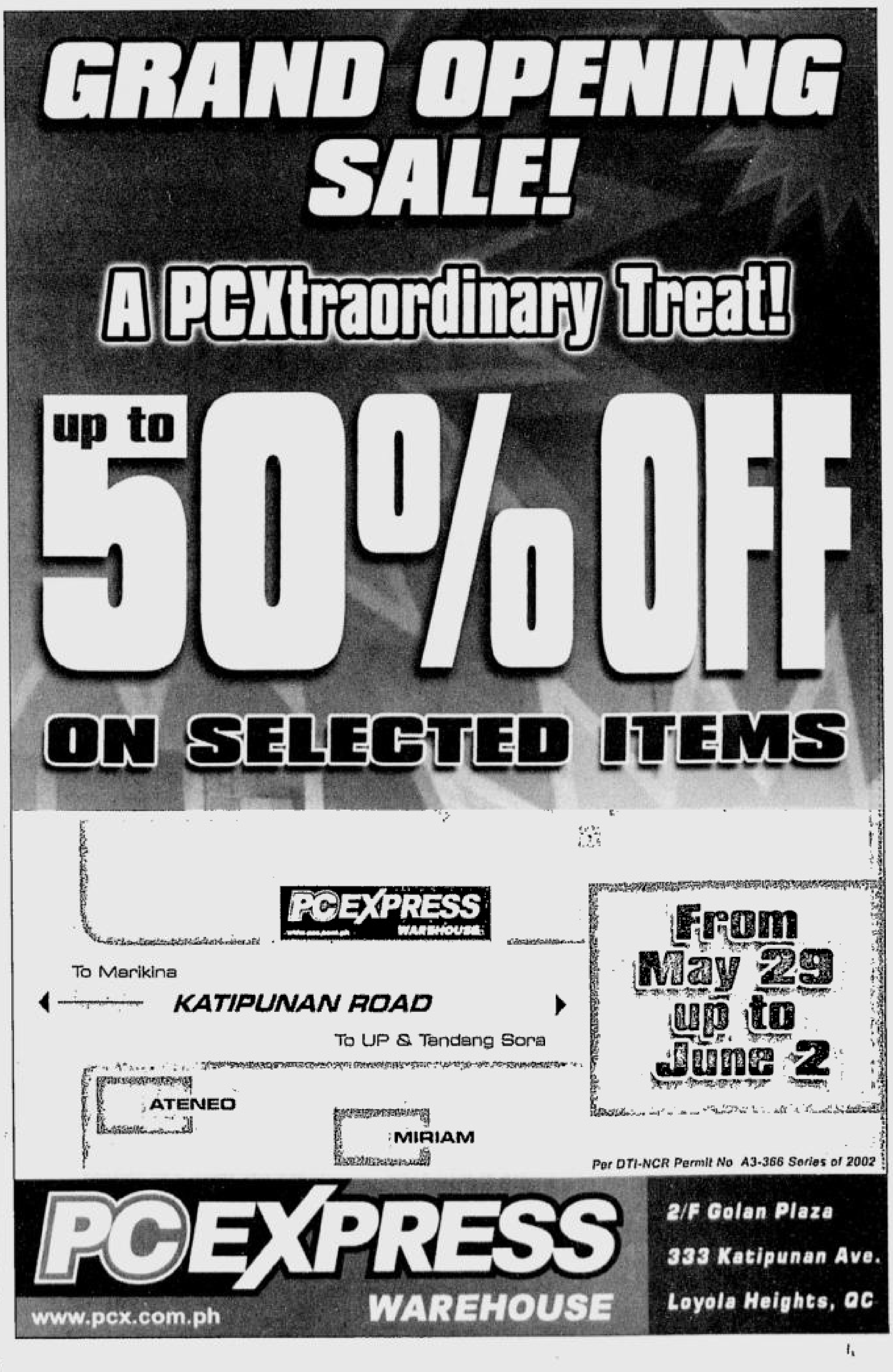
(5) Office XP has a tedious product activation process.

The bottom line

The main differences between XP and earlier versions of Office are look and feel changes rather than substantial new features.

Office XP is more for businesses and organizations which need better collaboration features. Single or home users will not benefit much from this product, as the previous versions of Office still work well today.

For more reviews on the latest gadgets and gizmos, visit http://www.infochat.com.ph. Want us to review a product? Send us an e-mail to infochat@mozcom.com with the subject heading: "The Bottom line."


GRAND OPENING SALE!
A PCXtraordinary Treat!
up to 50% OFF
ON SELECTED ITEMS

PC EXPRESS WAREHOUSE
To Marikina
KATIPUNAN ROAD
To UP & Tandang Sora
ATENEO
MIRIAM

From May 29 up to June 2

Per DTI-NCR Permit No A3-366 Series of 2002

PC EXPRESS WAREHOUSE
www.pcx.com.ph
2/F Golan Plaza
333 Katipunan Ave.
Loyola Heights, QC

INFOTECH

Editor **Leo Magno**

SECURITY EXPERTS SAY

Computer terrorism overhyped

By Joey G. Alarilla
INQ7.net

WHILE the danger it poses is real, cyberterrorism has received too much hype and has become a useful bogeyman for governments in pushing their agenda. This is according to Brian Martin, one of the founders of computer security website Attrition.org and a security consultant of several US government agencies.

"Y2K (the millennium bug) is a good comparison, I think. Cyberterrorism is a bit more hyped, though," Martin told INQ7.net.

Martin was a guest speaker at the 2002 Conference on IT Security and Privacy held in Manila on May 22. The 28-year-old Martin is up front about being a former hacker, though saying that he never did anything malicious. He said that he always discloses his past to the government agencies he works for and to his other clients.

Incidentally, Martin worked for six months on the technical defense of the world's most famous hacker, Kevin Mitnick, who has been portrayed by the US government and media as a menace to society who broke into national defense systems and could have single-handedly started World War III.

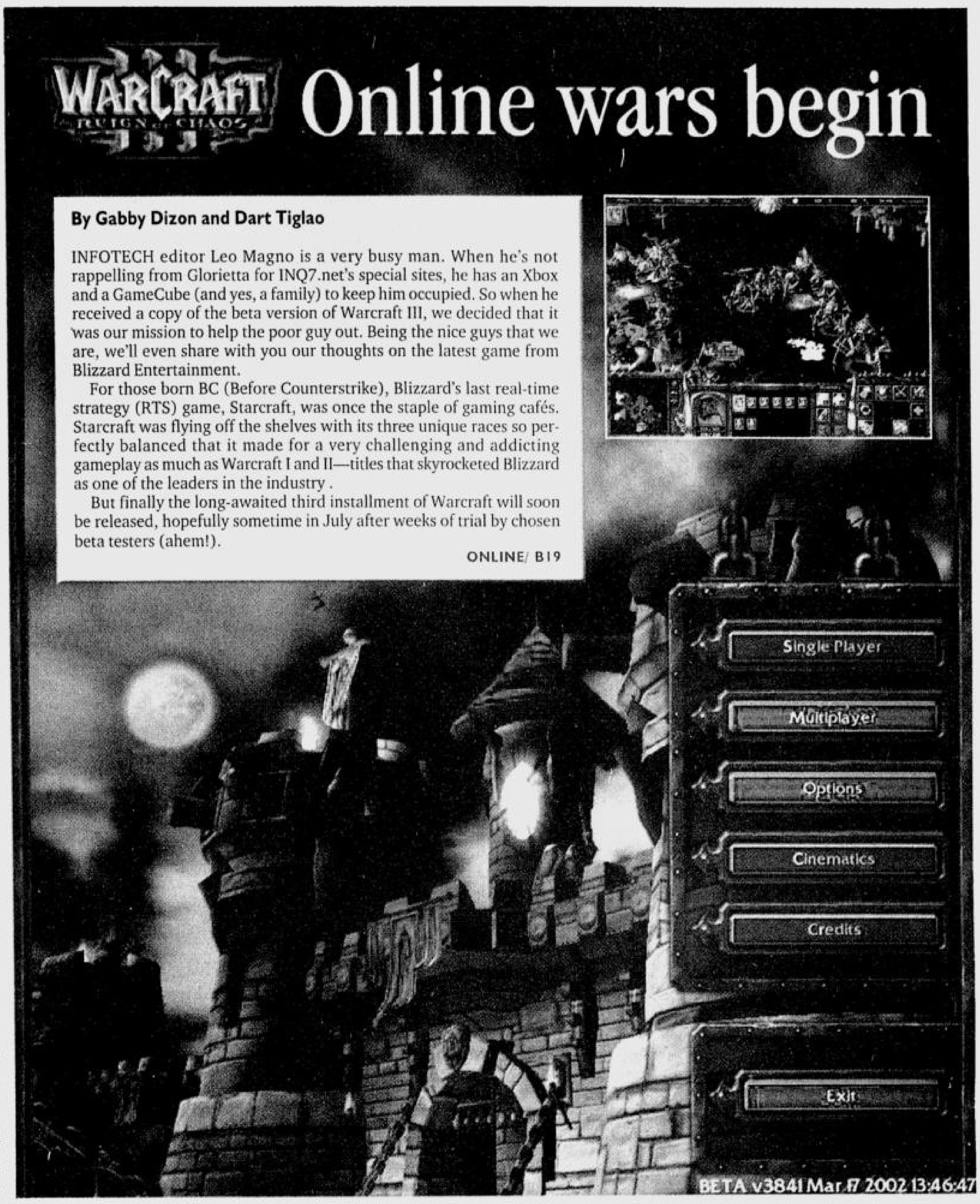
Cyberterrorism has gained the limelight in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 tragedy, as the US government and other nations say that the war on terrorism must also be carried out in cyberspace. Scenarios painted include tech-savvy terrorists shutting down national defenses or perhaps even remotely launching missiles by hacking into computer systems.

In the Philippines, government and private groups have also proposed the adoption of a national plan on cyberterrorism. The Information Technology and E-Commerce Council, the country's highest information and communications technology policymaking body, and PH-CERT were also present at the conference.

Martin said that the ability of so-called cyberterrorists "to shut down national systems" has been somewhat exaggerated, explaining that the process is more complicated than movies or some media coverage would have us believe. He pointed out that carrying out a complicated plan to shut down national security networks takes too much time, many people and a lot of resources.

"One would hope that the FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation) would pick up on it while it's being carried out. A lot of the stuff isn't Internet-connected. For the

COMPUTER/ B19



Online wars begin

By Gabby Dizon and Dart Tiglao

INFOTECH editor Leo Magno is a very busy man. When he's not rappelling from Glorietta for INQ7.net's special sites, he has an Xbox and a GameCube (and yes, a family) to keep him occupied. So when he received a copy of the beta version of Warcraft III, we decided that it was our mission to help the poor guy out. Being the nice guys that we are, we'll even share with you our thoughts on the latest game from Blizzard Entertainment.

For those born BC (Before Counterstrike), Blizzard's last real-time strategy (RTS) game, Starcraft, was once the staple of gaming cafés. Starcraft was flying off the shelves with its three unique races so perfectly balanced that it made for a very challenging and addicting gameplay as much as Warcraft I and II—titles that skyrocketed Blizzard as one of the leaders in the industry .

But finally the long-awaited third installment of Warcraft will soon be released, hopefully sometime in July after weeks of trial by chosen beta testers (ahem!).

ONLINE/ B19

Best-Value Pentium 4 Solution

ECS ELITEGROUP
www.ecs.com.tw

[The No.1 Motherboard in the World]

ECS P4S5A
SiS 645 Chipset
Socket 478 for Pentium 4 processors
Two PC133 SDRAM or Two DDR SDRAM
5 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot
Built-in Audio
ATX Form Factor

ECS P4IBASD
Intel 845D Chipset
Socket 478 for Pentium 4 processors
Two PC133 SDRAM or Two DDR SDRAM
5 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot, USB 2.0
Built-in Audio, Built-in LAN
ATX Form Factor

ECS P4VMM2
VIA P4M266 Chipset
Socket 478 for Pentium 4 processors
Two PC133 SDRAM or Two DDR SDRAM
2 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot
Built-in Audio, Built-in Video, Built-in LAN
Micro ATX Form Factor

Stability
Reliability
Performance
Price < < < <

MOTHERBOARDS

Available at all leading computer stores nationwide.

Exclusive Distributor:
Axis Global Technologies Inc.
www axisglobal com

Local law enforcers eyeing face-recognition technology

By Charles E. Buban

IMAGINE, as you apply for a police clearance or enter a mall or cross a busy intersection, someone somewhere will be watching your face on a remote camera. Your eyes, nose and mouth will be scrutinized—digitally cross-checked with the eyes, noses and mouths of suspected terrorists and wanted criminals.

Sounds creepy?

Probably if you are among the list of police's most wanted. In fact, this technology is now being used in some cities, airports and establishments around the world as a means to prevent a similar incident like that of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

The country's law enforcers, in its drive to utilize cutting-edge technologies to improve public safety and security, are now studying one of the leading technologies in this field. Called FaceIt Face Recognition Technology, this award-winning facial recognition software engine is the most widely deployed facial recognition system in the world today. The National Bureau of Investigation and the Philippine National Police are reportedly studying the merits of the system today.

FaceIt is an example of biometric technology that uses computerized methods for automatically recognizing a person based on a physical trait or attribute. This technology maps an individual's identity into a complex mathematical formula—called a faceprint—that can be matched and compared to others with phenomenal accuracy.

According to Mega Data Corp., the Philippine distributor of the technology, FaceIt is resistant to changes in lighting, skin tone, eyeglasses, facial expression and hair and can identify faces in various angles, up to 35 degrees in all directions.

Mega Data Corp. is the systems integration arm of the Mega Group of Computer Companies and is one of the pioneering systems integrators in the country.

FaceIt uses an advanced technology called Local Feature Analysis. The LFA is a mathematical technique developed by Visionics Corp. that converts all facial images (all complex patterns found in the face) to sets of recordable and identifiable elements.

Unlike other competing technologies, the LFA is insensitive to races or ethnic groups, variations in posing and changes in lighting. The technology is also programmed to ignore superficial changes in a person's appearance such as moustaches, hair, skin color and aging.

FaceIt presents a new paradigm in security, according to Mega Data Corp., whose technology became in demand after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

The size of a FaceIt template can be as small as 84 bytes, and a cold search from memory can do a one-to-many match at a speed of 60 million comparisons per minute using a standard Pentium III 800 PC.

FaceIt can be tapped into existing closed-circuit television surveillance systems and perform a real-time search against a gallery of known hijackers, terrorists and other criminals. Mega Data Corp. says that creating and integrating a database can be much easier nowadays since most existing computerized systems already have a database of photographs both local and abroad.

Cell phones banned from gas stations

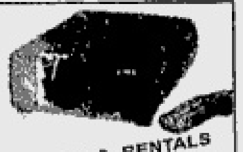
MOTORISTS in the Philippines are now banned from using their cellular phones at gasoline stations to avoid causing explosions.

In an advisory, the National Telecommunications Commission also asked gas station operators to post signs telling motorists to switch off their phones while filling up.

The commission said in a newspaper advertisement that it had issued the advisory as a precautionary measure, admitting that there was "no documented (evidence) of actual cases of explosions in gas stations caused by microwaves from electronic devices such as cell phones." Electronic waves emitted by cellular phones are said to be sufficient to create static electricity that could mix with gasoline vapors, according to claims posted on cell phone safety Internet sites.

Prior to the advisory, Makati City had issued an ordinance banning the use of cellular phones in gasoline stations.

There are 12 million cellular phone users in the Philippines.



EIKI
MULTIMEDIA PROJECTOR
Made in Japan
A wide range of models to meet your every need
AV SALES & RENTALS
DESIGN
SYSTEM INTEGRATION
The Brain Computer Corporation
Your One Stop Audiovisual Shop!
Tel Nos.: 722-8843/ 722-8845/727-9803/ 721-2466
721-2451 E-Mail: brain@mozcom.com

MONDAY,
MAY 27, 2002

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

C1

BusinessMonday

Business Features Editor **Margie Quimpo-Espino**

STOP
HAIR
LOSS
at
SVENSON
Call us now! 372-6631

RP firms among few to give pay hikes in region

THE TERRORIST attacks, the resulting recession in the United States coupled with Japan's economic downturn all took their toll on the Philippine economy. But these have not prevented local firms from giving out one of the region's highest pay increases.

This was revealed in the latest Compensation Trends Philippines 2000 survey of human resource consultant Watson Wyatt Philippines Inc. which was designed to gather information on salary increases, management initiatives and strategic rewards from a broad section of companies in the Philippines.

"The Philippines continues to be among the few countries in Asia to grant salary increases above the inflation rate. However, the gap between pay increases and inflation is gradually becoming smaller. Other countries in the Asia-Pacific region that give pay increases above inflation include Taiwan, Thailand and Indonesia," the survey shows.

The overall budgeted pay increase among the 237 companies included in the survey for 2002 was 11.08 percent, very close to 2001's level of 11.25 percent. These firms posted an average annual revenue of P1.6 billion.

Employees in the information technology industry received the highest pay increase from 1999 to 2001 and the projection for 2002 continues to be the highest at 14.34 percent.

"This is largely due to the shortage of IT talent in the local market given the competitive pressure from overseas companies. Yet, these increases have also slowed down over the past three years," the survey, now on its 13th year, says.

The pharmaceutical sector is also expected to be generous this year with a budgeted pay increase of 13.16 percent, followed by the insurance industry, 10.94 percent, and banking sector, 10.86 percent.

"It is worth noting that about five years back, the banking sector provided the highest average pay increase rate in the country. This was largely caused by the liberalization of the banking sector where new entrants hired aggressively from existing banks," the survey says.

The Watson Wyatt survey indicated that an annual pay increase remains the most common way to reward employees, but more and more companies are now shifting to performance-based bonuses, incentives as a way to reward employees and drive performance.

"For unionized companies, while employees covered by collective bargaining agreements are generally accustomed to across-the-board negotiated pay in-

RP/ C2

Ford
No Boundaries

SO ATTRACTIVE, IT CAN'T HELP LOOKING AT ITSELF.

Tall.
17" 10-spoke cast aluminum wheels.

Dark.
Platinum gray upper bumpers, wheellips and body mouldings.
Color-keyed front bumpers, mirrors and deflectors.

Ruggedly handsome.
Extreme grille.
Wrap around bugshield.

And so full of itself.
All premium wood and genuine leather interior.

Call it vain.
Or just plain smug about who's the fairest of them all.

2002 FORD EXPEDITION
PREMIUM SPORT
www.ford.com.ph

*Premium Sport priced at P1.950M

Ford Alabang, Madrigal Business Park, Alabang - Zapote Rd., Muntinlupa City, Trunk Lines 842-3681 / 842-4628, Fax No. 807-4430
Ford Balintawak, EDSA cor. Seminary Road, Balintawak, Quezon City. Trunk Line 927-9648, Fax No. 927-5981
Ford EDSA, 29 EDSA, Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila Trunk Lines 726-7181 to 85, Fax No. 723-6311
Ford Libis, 186 E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave., Bagumbayan, Libis, Quezon City Trunk Line 637-2044, Fax No. 637-6008
Ford Makati, 2287 Pasong Tamo Ext., Makati City 1231; Trunk Line 818-5555, Fax No. 815-0513
Ford Quezon Avenue, Quezon Avenue corner Apo Street, Quezon City Tel nos. 732 3943 / 732 3945, Fax No. 742-3451
Ford Cabanatuan, Maharlika Highway, Sumacab-Este, Cabanatuan City, Tel No. (044) 464-0111, Fax No. (044) 600-4200
Ford Pampanga, San Fernando - Olongapo Highway, City of San Fernando, Pampanga, Trunk Line (045) 961-2888, Fax Nos. (045) 963-5205 / 961-2277
Ford Bacolod, Araneta St., Barangay Singcang, Bacolod City, Telefax No. (034) 434-2877
Ford Cebu, Magallanes cor. P. Burgos St., Cebu City 6000, Trunk Line (032) 253-0453, Fax No. (032) 253-0429
Ford Davao, Km. 6, Lanang, Davao City, Tel. No. (082) 234-1111, Fax No. (082) 234-2272

WITH THE WORLD'S LARGEST
LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY* BEHIND YOU,
WHAT'S TO WORRY ABOUT THE FUTURE?
Nippon Life – stability & strength you can depend on.
*Fortune Magazine, July 2001
Call: 753-2151 (ext. 412)

Nippon Life Philippines
Nothing can be more secure
www.nipponlife-phil.com.ph

Make
Maybank
your bank.

- One of the top 130 banks in the world
- Among the top 20 banks in Asia
- Backed by over US$39 billion in assets
- Present in major countries overseas with over 500 branches and representative offices worldwide
- The largest bank in Malaysia

MEGALINK Member PDIC. Deposits insured up to P100,000.

Maybank
Best Bank in Malaysia
Euromoney Awards for Excellence 2001
Visit any of our over 50 branches nationwide
or call 521-7451.
www.maybank2u.com

New Asian corporation

MAPPING THE FUTURE

By Edward L. Fereira

IN GOOD times and bad, executive time is at a premium. Business is so complex, and getting more so all the time, that successful executives are pressed as never before to manage their time—and that of their direct reports—with extreme efficiency.

Increased pressure on margins, cycle times, and product and service value add are the new reality and the result of increased competition spawned by liberalization, globalization and consumer empowerment.

As if that weren't enough, tough economic times strain all kinds of resources — human, financial, and proprietary. They require new ways of looking at the business, and often whole new business models.

Given these circumstances, what does it take to get an executive to allocate an entire day to networking with other executives, attending panel discussions, and learning from other executives and respected international management experts?

In other words, how do you get them to commit to attending—and paying for—a day-long series of mass meetings called a conference?

That was the question we asked ourselves as we contemplated undertaking MAP's seventh annual conference, which will take place June 19.

To answer that question, we first thought about our overall objectives, of which there are several. First, we wanted the conference to be a conference that CEOs and other top executives would attend. It had to appeal to their interests. It had to reflect the concerns they faced every day. And it had to offer some perspective and insight on how to effectively address those concerns.

Second, we wanted new perspectives. New perspectives, we believed, could best be provided by experts who work throughout the region and the world, as well as the Philippines. Third, we wanted a conference that like our businesses, would aspire to be world-class in content and the quality of our speakers and participants.

We also wanted a good number of executives to want to attend, and to feel comfortable in the conference environment we would create.

We tackled those objectives in three steps. First, we thought about content. Over several committee meetings we decided the conference would focus on three central issues. The first of these issues is leadership.

What kinds of leaders are required to build Asia's future industry champions? The second issue is the enterprise itself. What qualities will industry-leading enterprises exhibit? The third issue is community. What will be the nature of the relationship between the enterprise and the various elements of the ecosystem in which it operates?

Next, we considered organization and speakers, and decided that each of these issues should be discussed from three perspectives: competence, character and contribution. We invited both prominent local business personalities as well as an array of business, media and academic experts from around the world to speak in five panels.

Finally, we felt that we needed an international expert to provide an overview of the challenges facing Asian and Philippine enterprise, and offer recommendations on how to address those challenges.

These sessions were designed to provide real-life examples of how Asian and Philippine enterprises can use the knowledge conveyed by the speakers to do such things as better manage change, enhance efficiency and productivity, and recognize and capitalize on new opportunities.

The format will be highly interactive, with the panelists responding to each other as well as the audience. Rather than make formal presentations, speakers will have conversations with each other and the audience to facilitate meaningful discussion of perspectives and insights.

Finally, after a great deal of discussion, we decided to invite Prof. Robert S. Kaplan, author of "The Balanced Scorecard" and a professor at Harvard Business School as our international expert and keynote speaker.

He will speak in two separate plenary sessions, both opening and closing the conference. Dr. Kaplan will discuss the key principles required to build an organization that can achieve breakthrough, sustainable performance improvements.

We are fortunate to have Dr. Kaplan, who is in great demand and generally schedules his appearances a year or more in advance. As chance would have it, Dr. Kaplan was already scheduled to be in Asia, and had an extra day he could devote to the Philippines.

We believe that Dr. Kaplan is unique when compared with most management gurus, because his Balanced Scorecard strategic framework solves a universal problem: Not just how to formulate strategy, but how to make it work. And that's the ultimate purpose of this conference. Not just to network. Not just to hear new ideas. It's to learn what works in the complex circumstances we now find ourselves.

With all that done, we named our conference "Defining the New Asian Corporation: Its Leadership, Character, and Passion."

So far, how are we doing? Well, the ultimate indicator will be the conference itself. But so far, it looks like we're on target. There are a number of indicators. First, we have a world-class co-presenter that is the epitome of new business model creation, BayanTrade.

BayanTrade has revolutionized the way business is done in the Philippines, we all know. But BayanTrade is also defining the business model for B2B exchanges all over the world, according to Sandy Kemper, president of the Global Trading Web. And he'll tell you that himself at the conference, where he'll speak on new Asian Enterprise Communities.

And then you should see our list of participants. You'd be hard pressed to find a more esteemed group of chairs, presidents and CEOs in one room at any conference. It's a group we're very proud of, but it's also a group with high expectations of our MAP conference committee. And we intend to fulfill those expectations, and exceed them. Be there to see it happen. To register or request more information, e-mail aiviec @teamasia.com.ph.

(The author is board member of the Management Association of the Philippines, chair of the MAP Membership/Fellowship Committee, chair of the MAP International CEO Conference, and chair and president of Pharmafere Inc. The MAP Secretariat and the author may be reached via mapsec @globenet.com.ph.)

RP firms among few to give pay hikes in region

From page C1

creases, a growing number of unions are gradually embracing the concept of "pay for performance," the report shows.

Companies included in the survey reported that all their employees earn more than the prescribed minimum wage. About 20 percent of the respondents, mostly from the high-tech industry, reported that they have granted or will grant increases to comply with wage orders.

Aside from the shift to the "pay for performance" system, the survey showed that there are other changes in business policies.

About 24 percent of companies plan or have already introduced job sharing (such as part-time sharing arrangements, virtual work and other non-traditional work arrangements). Seven companies are reducing the number of workdays in a week and six firms are curtailing their operations by closing selected branches/offices/plants in the Philippines.

"The Philippines had its own share of ill events that took their toll on the socio-political atmosphere. Overall, the events following terrorist aggression on global business had a negative effect on Philippine companies. It has led to certain changes in many policies," the survey says.

Watson Wyatt is an international consulting firm that brings together two broad disciplines—people and financial management—to help clients improve business performance.

It has over 5,000 professionals in 90 offices with expertise in human resource strategies, finance, compensation, benefits, organization effectiveness, employee communications and risk management. ***Tina Arceo-Dumlao***

Oracle9*i* JDeveloper

$995

"Oracle9*i* JDeveloper is one of the most responsive, complete and best integral Java development environments that we've seen."
eWEEK
THE ENTERPRISE NEWSWEEKLY

"Oracle's goal is nothing less than providing the Java developer with a single soup-to-nuts environment for everything from UML modeling to J2EE deployment."
software development

"For the full development, debugging, tuning, and development of...Java-based applications for complex corporate applications, I've not seen better."
JAVAPro

"JDeveloper is a clear winner."
XML & WEB SERVICES MAGAZINE

**If you want the best Java integrated development environment,
you have to be willing to spend less.
(Or download for free, but don't tell anybody.)**

ORACLE®

oracle.com/ad/jdev995
or call 1-800-144-10054

Copyright ©2001 Oracle Corporation All rights reserved Oracle is a registered trademark of Oracle Corporation.
Other names may be trademarks of their respective owners.

S&P index changes shrouded in secrecy

NEW YORK—It's a club every US company wants to join—the Standard & Poor's 500 index—but the proposed new members are one of Wall Street's best-kept secrets.

The changes are so secret they are on a need-to-know basis and are encrypted and stored on computer discs kept under lock and key.

And with good cause: The addition or deletion of a company from the US major market gauge, the Standard's & Poor's 500, can make or break a stock in the near term, and cause vast movements in the market at short notice.

Just witness the effect on troubled telecom WorldCom Group on May 14, the day after the research firm said it would boot the troubled telecom company off the S&P 500 index. Some 670 million shares of Worldcom exchanged hands—about double the previous record for any US stock's daily trading volume—and the share price fell 20 cents, or 14 percent, to $1.24.

One reason so much trading takes place when changes are made is that many investors have bought into index funds—investment funds that reflect the makeup of a given index. The S&P is one of the funds most used in such strategies.

"As index (fund) managers have to buy the shares (of a company added to the index) it creates short-term artificially high demand," said Eugene Profit, a money manager with Profit Investment Management LLC, who oversees $80 million in assets from Silver Spring, Maryland. "A stock that is deleted, sees its stock price depressed in the short term."

And it's not just investors who watch for S&P announcements. Corporate chieftains highly value the inclusion of their stock in an index. It gives a corporation cachet in the marketplace, and provides a pool of money underpinning the stock price, with some $750 billion linked to the S&P 500 alone by managers who buy and sell to replicate the index.

Secrecy and timing

So just how does S&P, a division of publishing company McGraw-Hill Cos. Inc., choose companies?

The final decision lies with the agency's seven-member S&P index committee, three analysts who continually monitor corporate actions and four senior S&P equity research executives.

The committee reviews candidates on several basic criteria: It must be a US company, half the stock is available to the public, and there is enough stock turnover that 40 percent of the outstanding shares change hands each year.

Additions must also be financially viable, and have posted positive earnings in the last four quarters—something that may be tougher now that S&P is no longer excluding the cost of stock options and charges for layoffs from earnings. The committee also looks at the sector of the economy in which the potential company operates.

"We want the index to be aligned with the market overall," David Blitzer, S&P index strategist and committee chair told Reuters. "If we are overweight in financials, we are less likely to add a financial" stock.

The committee meets once a month and has anything from five to 15 stocks ready to add to an index. That allows for quick decisions between meetings such as in the case of energy trader Enron Corp. in 2001.

In Enron's case, the announcement that its debt rating was being cut came at 10.30 a.m., the committee meeting was held at noon, and the S&P announcement of its deletion was made at 5.15 p.m. that day, Blitzer said.

The actual index change, comes usually five business days after the announcement and would only be longer than a week if it involved the completion of a merger with an undetermined date.

Stocks in the S&P 400 Mid Cap index, and the small-cap S&P 600 Small Cap—which are selected by the same method as S&P 500 stocks—are not automatic candidates for a larger market-cap index, Blitzer said. While they are an obvious pool of candidates, the committee looks at all stocks for inclusion.

Once the decision is made to change an index, the information is stored on a diskette or an encrypted computer file until it's sent simultaneously to the firm's website, and the news dissemination services at 5.15 p.m..

Until 5.14 p.m., as few as a dozen people are aware that there will be an announcement and what it will contain, Blitzer said. The companyies themselves are not aware that they will be cut or added to an index.

MOVEMENTS

AIG names new officers

AMERICAN International Group Inc. chair M.R. Greenberg announced that the AIG Board has elected Edmund S.W. Tse and Martin J. Sullivan as co-chief operating officers of AIG.

Tse is also AIG senior vice chair and vice chair of the board of directors of The Philippine American Life and General Insurance Co. (Philamlife), the flagship of the Philam Group of companies in the Philippines.

Tse was elected senior vice chairman, Life Insurance in 2001, after serving as vice chairman since 1997, overseeing AIG's worldwide Life operations.

Tse is also Chairman of American International Assurance Co. Ltd, AIG's flagship Southeast Asian life insurance company.

Tse began his AIG career in 1961, when he joined AIA in Hong Kong. In 1970, he joined Nan Shan Life Insurance Co. Ltd., an AIG subsidiary in Taiwan, where he became president and managing director in 1975.

He returned to Hong Kong in 1983 as president and CEO of AIA.

AIG is the world's leading US-based international insurance and financial services organization, the largest underwriter of commercial and industrial insurance in the United States.

Alcatel appoints new VP

ALCATEL has appointed Constantin V. Scordidis as its vice president for Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands.

Based in Singapore, Scordidis is tasked with overseeing operations and leading the development of new business initiatives in the region under his responsibility. He will also determine the specific strategies to develop and implement, in order to grow Alcatel's business in these countries.

Scordidis has more than 10 years of experience in the telecommunications sector. He holds and Industrial Engineering degree from Gramme in Belgium, as well as a Master's in Business Administration degree from Mons Catholic University, also in Belgium.

Alcatel is one of the world's biggest companies offering telecommunications infrastructure, broadband access and optics.

New RBAP president

JERRY B. Coloma Jr. of Zambales Rural Bank, Olongapo City, and Gateway Rural Bank, Bulacan, was elected president of the Rural Bankers Association of the Philippines for the term 2002-2003 during the association's 49th annual national convention held in Cagayan de Oro City.

Other elected officers were Paulo E. Campos Jr. of RB Dasmariñas, Cavite, vice president for Luzon; Zenaida A. Teves of RB Sta. Catalina, Negros Oriental, vice president for Visayas; Joseph Omar O. Andaya, Rural Green Bank of Caraga, vice president for Mindanao; Ernel S. Espeleta, RB Alabang, treasurer; and Andres G. Panganiban, New RB of San Leonardo, Nueva Ecija, corporate secretary.

New San Beda trustee

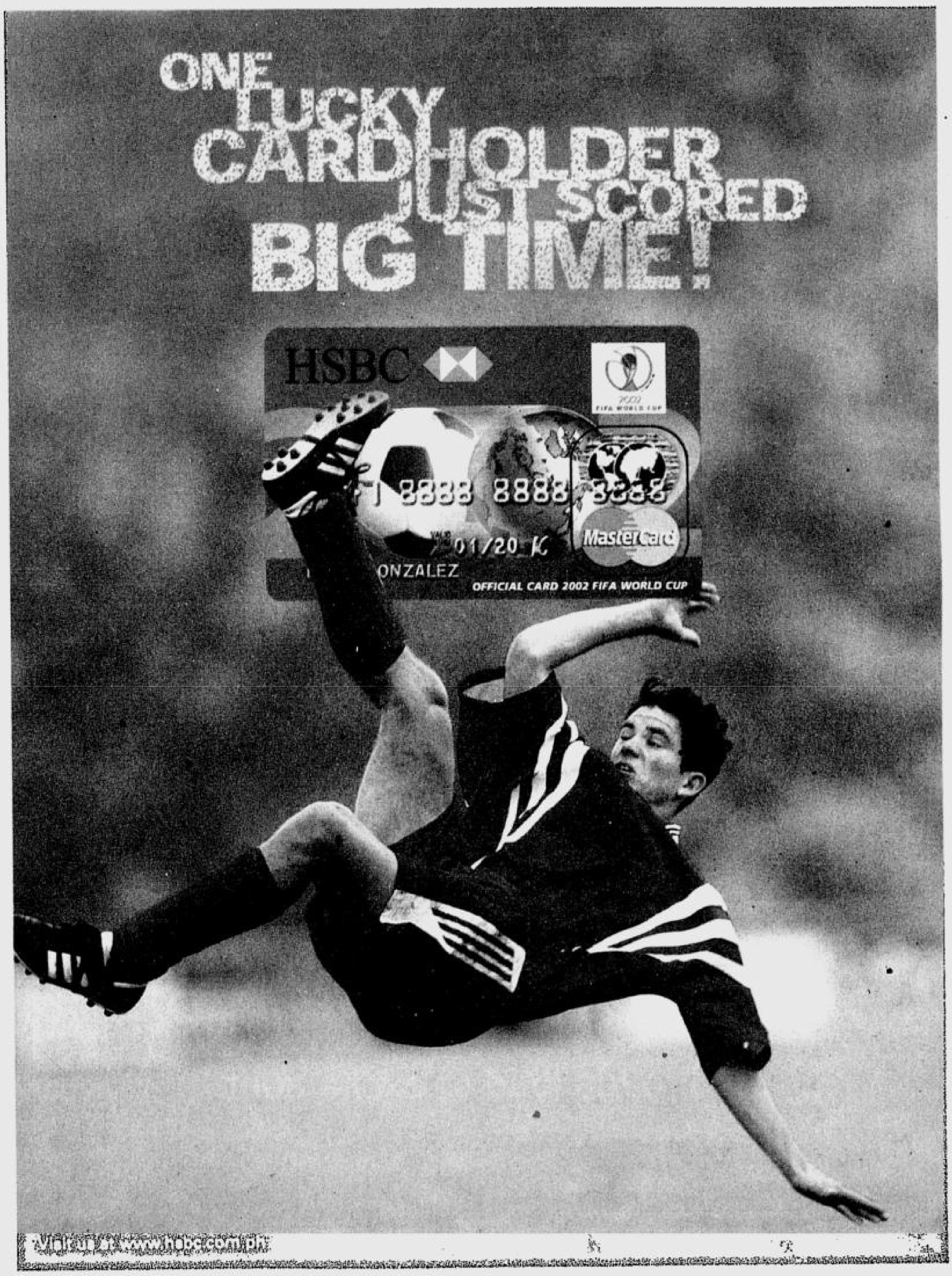
BUSINESSMAN Robert Coyiuto Jr. was recently elected as member of the Board of Trustees of San Beda College for 2002 to 2005.

As trustee, Coyiuto shall actively participate in charting the college's future educational programs.

Coyiuto is chair of various companies that include Prudential Guarantee and Assurance Inc. and PGA Cars Inc.

During San Beda's centennial celebrations last year, the college honored Coyiuto as one of the "Top Bedans of the Century," the distinguished circle of outstanding alumni who brought honor to the school by excelling in various fields such as academe, law, business, government, arts and sciences.

UCPB inaugurated recently its 209th ATM site at the Pepsi-Cola bottling plant in Muntinlupa. During the first five months of 2002 alone, the bank has opened eight new sites. Shown during the inauguration are from left David Mercado, Willard Paras, Roberto Gaerlan, Jessie Domingo, Cora Pineda, Daniel Yu and Edilberto Vizcarra.


ONE LUCKY CARDHOLDER JUST SCORED BIG TIME!
HSBC
2002 FIFA WORLD CUP
8888 8888 8888
01/20
ONZALEZ
MasterCard
OFFICIAL CARD 2002 FIFA WORLD CUP
Visit us at www.hsbc.com.ph

Congratulations to **Mercedita Gacosta**,
our official representative to the 2002 FIFA World Cup Finals.

The FIFA World Cup, also known as World Championship Soccer, is considered the most popular single sporting event in the world. Held once every 4 years, this year's finals will be held in Japan - the first time ever in Asia.

2002 FIFA World Cup™ MasterCard cardholder, Mercedita Gacosta of Muntinlupa City, will be there to experience the passion and excitement for herself, along with 1 companion plus round trip tickets, hotel accommodations and US$3,000 spending money!

You too have a chance to be a part of this global phenomenon with the limited edition 2002 FIFA World Cup™ MasterCard as brought to you by HSBC, your local bank around the world.

Apply now at any of our branches and mall booths. For more details, call HSBC's 24-hour On-Call hotline at **878-7878.** For callers outside Metro Manila, call our domestic toll-free number at **1-800-1-888-8555.**

HSBC
The world's local bank

Issued by The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

Per DTI-NCR No. 0968 Series of 2002.

Empowering women through entrepreneurship

By Myrna Rodriguez-Co

Women in the Philippines are perceived to be more empowered than most of their counterparts in other societies and cultures. This perception is not without bases.

Socially, co-equal

In social circles, they are recognized, respected and even deferred to. In Philippine households, wives are co-managers and decision makers with their husbands. Filipino women also enjoy equal access to education as men. In fact, more Filipino girls than boys reach and finish the college level. Moreover, in terms of explicit policies and legislation, women are entitled to equal rights and opportunities with men. The situation is promoted by a strong and vibrant women's movement which is doing impressive advocacy work for advancing a wide range of women's concerns.

Economically, underachieving

However, the empowered image of the Filipino women is flawed when one studies their position in economic and public life. They continue to account for a higher number of unemployed, work under inhospitable conditions, receive lower pay, and are the last to be trained and the first to be laid off. They also have limited opportunities for growth in corporations, factories and other work places. In government, they are grossly under-represented in the legislature, executive branch and other decision-making bodies. In the bureaucracy, as in the corporate world, women executives tend to be stuck in lower-management rungs. The situation is not much better in the academe where women, ironically, are dominant in number: women university presidents and college deans are still the exception rather than the norm.

At the root of the discriminated status of the Filipino women, despite the various laws on equal rights and opportunities in place, is the gap between legislation and compliance.

Given the discrimination women experience in politics and in the workplace, it is not surprising that entrepreneurship has emerged as an attractive option for women who want to reap the full harvest of their efforts.

Indeed, in the Philippines, the most empowered and successful women are in business.

Where women power shines

Through entrepreneurship, women are able to reap the full rewards coming out of their labors. In their own business, they can take the highest position, delegate authority, call the shots, pay themselves salaries commensurate to their efforts. Their own business also permits women to control their own work schedule and make their own choices as of type of business, products to handle, where to locate, etc. It permits them to exercise creativity, without giving up their traditional roles.

The Philippine Chamber of Handicraft Industries, the Meycauayan Jewelry Industry Association and the Association of Negros Producers are only a few of the enterprise associations where women shine and lead.

However, some women, especially in the rural areas, are yet unconvinced that they have what it takes to be successful in business. Many of the rural women folk still believe that they are good for nothing but the simplest and most traditional tasks.

No less entrepreneurial than men

There is also a view that women are less entrepreneurial than men.

This view arises largely because of gender stereotypes. For example, typically "feminine" characteristics like honesty, the service ideal and a people-oriented rather than task-oriented management style are considered to be deterrents to business success. On the other hand, the stereotype image of men as being self-confident, aggressive, competitive, independent and rash—rather than people-oriented is seen to be associated with entrepreneurial success.

Yet, comparative research on male and female entrepreneurs observed no substantial difference between them. Both were comparable in terms of achievement orientation, leadership, risk-taking and future orientation. It was found, however, that they tend to differ in terms of self-confidence and economic optimism. Men were perceived to be more self-confident and more optimistic than economic indicators warrant, and thus tended to be more impulsive in decision making. Women were shown to be more cautious regarding external events and a little less self-confident.

Achievement motivation through training

Unfortunately, not too many women know that entrepreneurship is a fertile field for the flowering of their capabilities. Perhaps they have been too long preconditioned to believe the myth about their lack of entrepreneurial predisposition.

Training is a classic tool in changing women's mindset about their capabilities. But the training required here is training "plus."

Women entrepreneurship development programs, especially for the disadvantaged sectors, are, best run with "premium" modules in community-organizing, empowerment (block-busting), and achievement-motivation. Counseling components are also an imperative, not only for the women participants but also for the men in their lives—fathers, husbands, sons, brothers. Modules on how to manage time and how to avail themselves of support systems are also useful, given the multiple roles that women take in the home, business and community.

It is also important that training for women entrepreneurs be conducted not in isolation but rather in complementation with credit, marketing and business advisory services.

The course on Designing and Implementing Entrepreneurship Programs (DIEP) for Women, now on its ninth run at the University of the Philippines Institute for Small-Scale Industries (UP ISSI) factors in these "premium" components in entrepreneurship development programs for women.

(For more information on DIEP, please contact Claire Esteban or Tes Santos at Tel. No. 928-7076 or Fax No. 926-6316.)

A School That Nurtures Your Child So He May Reach His Full Potential.

Reedley International School

Integrating the best of Singaporean and American curricula from elementary to high school and now even IPS level.

- Excellent program combining Singaporeans' high standards in Math & Sciences and Americans' exceptional communication skills
- Low teacher : student ratio for better classroom interaction
- Air-conditioned classrooms
- A coed international school
- Nurturing atmosphere, encouraging students to grow as creative and critical thinkers with developed social and leadership skills
- Solid academic foundation in preparation for further studies here or abroad

ENROLLMENT NOW ONGOING FOR:

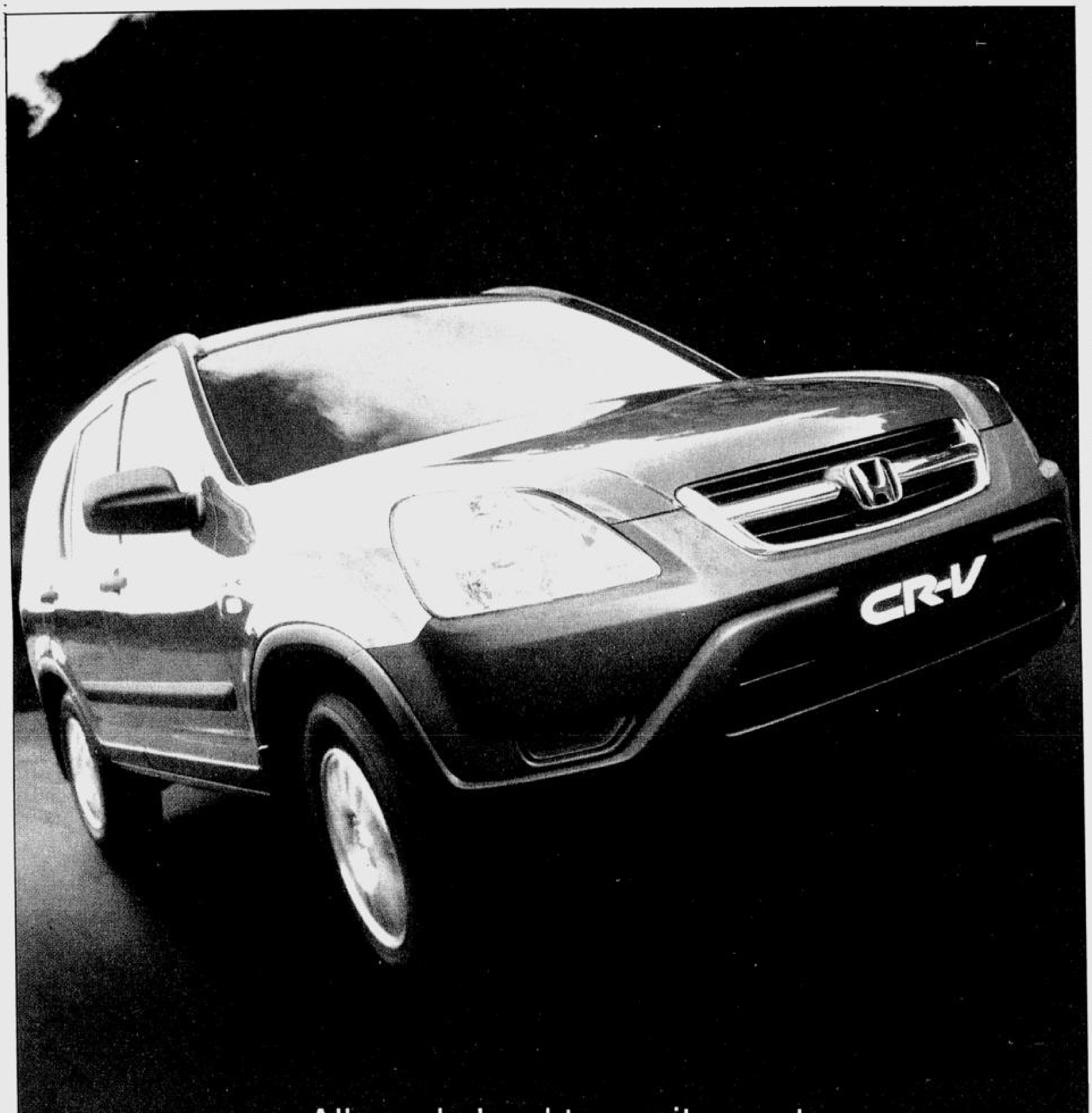
IPS - Introduction to Primary Schooling (Preparatory Level)
Grades 1 - 4 (Lower School)
Grades 5 - 7 (Middle School)
Grades 9 - 12 (Upper School)

Pasig Boulevard cor. Rosemarie Lane, Pasig City
Telephone: 671-8982 to 85
Email: reedley@asiagate.net

INTERNET FOR SMALL BUSINESS
Call: 891 3412

free WEB DESIGN
www.webnetph.com

Domain Name Registration
Web Hosting
E-mail Account
Website Maintenance
Website promotion & Marketing
e-Business Consultancy



All roads lead to excitement.

Brace yourself for an exhilarating experience with the new Honda CR-V. Now with the breakthrough i-VTEC engine that delivers extraordinary power and outstanding fuel efficiency. Loaded with superior safety features like the Anti-Lock Braking System, Electronic Brake Force Distribution and Dual SRS Airbags for carefree riding pleasure. In demanding circumstances or unfamiliar territory, the new CR-V responds with smooth confidence and effortless drive.

Others promise freedom, but only the CR-V delivers true liberation. Wherever your journey, whatever your goal, all roads lead to excitement.

ALL- NEW CR-V
Things to see. Places to go.

i-VTEC DOHC
3 Years 100,000 km Warranty
MAINTENANCE COST CUT IN 1/2
HONDA

For feedback, text us at (0918)917-5026 or email us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph
LIFESTYLE
Arts/Design
Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso ◆ Subsection Editor Lito B. Zulueta

The great mentors behind the great prodigies

NENA del Rosario Villanueva, the country's first piano prodigy

By Pablo A. Tariman
Contributor

IF you have covered the arts scene for 27 years, you get to know more than 27 exemplary artists and, behind them, their exemplary teachers.

When you mention the name of the country's first piano prodigy, Nena del Rosario Villanueva, who shone in the '50s and the '60s, you also have to mention the name of the eminent mentor, Isabelle Vengerova.

Way before Vengerova, a famous name in Curtis, Philadelphia, there was a German nun who came to the Philippines at the turn of the century and produced a generation of pupils who swore by her pianistic bible.

Her name was Sr. Baptista Battig. During her era in Manila, when she taught at St. Scholastica's College (SSC), she was almost considered a patron saint of music.

Hear a 1937 SSC graduate, Imelda Katigbak Dayrit: "Sr. Baptista Battig looked so holy I thought she was a saint. There was this look in her eyes as if she was in constant dialogue with God."

And yet Dayrit said the nun also understood human nature. She continued: "One time when I was already married and I still continued seeing her, she asked me casually why I had to put on makeup and have my nails manicured. And I told her, 'Sister, I have to do this if only to keep my husband.' And she understood right away."

National Artist for Music Lucrecia R. Kasilag, who was an aspiring pianist before she injured her hand, remembers Sister Battig as very exacting and thorough.

Recalls Tita King: "As a person, she was full of humanity. She had this gentle touch and yet she was firm when supervising her piano students. She used to intone during my lessons, 'Look for the beauty of tone, beauty of line.' While she demanded discipline in as far as technique was concerned, she wouldn't sacrifice the melodic line in any composition. Her daily exhortations were always, 'Look for tone, tone, tone; look for beauty of expression."

Another SSC graduate, Estrella Wyangco Ackermann, considers Sister Battig as the "master of the pedal." Ackermann said that Sister Battig was the pupil of Ludwig Deppe, one of the well-known pupils of Theodor Leschetizky, who was one of the greatest pupils of Franz Liszt. Deppe, she added, carried one method of Liszt and Leschetizky and Sister Battig was considered one of Deppe's most talented pupils.

Marcella Agoncillo, daughter of Felipe Agoncillo, had said there was no teacher like Sister Battig during her time. The admonition from the German nun she remembered very well—that poetry and music go together and that the pedal should not be used to conceal wrong notes.

Ms Agoncillo worshipped the nun as a teacher and loved her as a second mother.

Last week, I got a call from a piano aficionado named Fe Dikitanan Amonoy, from Tanay, Rizal (she was reserving a ticket for a coming Licad concert). She said she was a student of Pilar Sala in Cebu, who ran a music school named after Sister Battig, and she played the Saint-Saëns Second Concert concerto for her graduation requirement. Would Licad be playing the Saint-Saëns concerto? No, I said. It's Rachmaninoff's Third.

I chuckled at the fact that a 1955 piano graduate of the Battig school in Cebu was catching up with a much younger pianist born in 1961 and was probably curious how the Saint-Saëns concerto is played now.

When you mention Licad's name, two great mentors come to mind—Rosario Picazo from Manila and Rudolf Serkin in Curtis. Serkin had played in Cebu in the '60s, during the humbler days of the Cebu Arts Council (now it has grown so big; its staff is trained to smell, count and preserve the almighty American dollar down to the last cent).

If Sister Battig was a compleat mentor and mother figure to Agoncillo, Serkin was a strong mentor and father to Licad.

Listening to the 14-year-old Licad play, Serkin said, "When I was her age, I could not touch what she is doing."

Licad acknowledged Serkin's role in her

THE GREAT/ p.D2

Wild On White sand
Pink Patio RESORT BORACAY
Valid until May 31, 2002

	SUPERIOR ROOM	DELUXE ROOM
TWIN SHARING	P3,735.00/person	P4,295.00/person
Extra night w/breakfast	P 1,580.00/	P 1,070.00/
TRIPLE SHARING	P3,075.00/person	P3,445.00/person
Extra night w/breakfast	P 1,260.00/	P 1,445.00/

Package Includes: 3Days/2Nights AIRCON Room Accomodation ▪ Daily Set Breakfast Roundtrip Land/Sea Transfers via Island Star Express ▪ Welcome Drink ▪ Free Fruit Shake Free Rock Wall Climbing ▪ Free use of Swimming Pool and Jacuzzi

Call us at 846-2222 to 28 Email: sales@pinkpatio.com www.pinkpatio.com

Unfold the secret of a beautiful skin...

SERVICES OFFERED
- Different kinds of Rejuvenation Facial Deep Cleansing
- Removal of warts, milia, syringoma & xanthelasma
- Comprehensive pimple & acne treatment
- Biocurative treatment
- Collagen treatment (wet & dry)
- Esthetic & AHA for post acne/pimple marks, freckles, pigmentation, dark spots on face, arms and legs.
- Soft waxing for unwanted hair
- Paraffin waxing for wrinkled hands
- Glycofusion & glutachips for body whitening & skin refining
- Aromabuff

NOW OPEN! Manila Branch

DERMATRIUM
Where Beauty Begins.

MAKATI
G-11 Prince Plaza Condominium
106 Legaspi St., Legaspi Vill.
Makati City
Tel: 893-5449 • 893-5387 • 893-5403

QUEZON CITY
1157-C MRE Bldg.
Quezon Avenue
Quezon City
Tel: 374-5174 to 75

ALABANG
UG-6 Industrial Enterprises Business Center
Alabang-Zapote Road
Alabang, Muntinlupa
Tel: 807-4403 to 04

LEGAZPI CITY
Unit 2 Alcazar Bldg.,
Rizal St., Legazpi City
Tel: (052)480-6937
(052)820-8240

MANILA
TH-2 Times Plaza Bldg.
U.N. Ave. cor. Taft Ave.
Ermita, Manila
Tel: 404-2415

It's Time You Get Some Action!
Join the
get GOING get MOVING
Sports Xhibition & Raffle
get clothes with the COTTON USA Mark or BREEZE products and get 3 chances of winning!

get loads of EXCITEMENT

JOIN OUR MALL CHALLENGE!
Present your Get Going, Get Moving raffle coupon at the COTTON USA booth at our different mall venues to join the action!

OBSTACLE RELAY
May 18, SM Megamall
First Place - P25,000 worth of SM Gift Certificates
Second Place - P15,000 worth of SM Gift Certificates
Third Place - P10,000 worth of SM Gift Certificates

WALL CLIMBING
May 25, SM City North EDSA
Team Competition
First Place - P25,000 worth of Toby's Gift Certificates
Second Place - P15,000 worth of Toby's Gift Certificates
Third Place - P10,000 worth of Toby's Gift Certificates
Individual Competition
First Place - P10,000 worth of Toby's Gift Certificates
Second Place - P5,000 worth of Toby's Gift Certificates
Third Place - P2,000 worth of Toby's Gift Certificates

IN-LINE SKATING & SKATEBOARDING
June 2, SM Southmall
In-line Skating Individual Competition
First Place - P10,000 worth of Toby's Gift Certificates
Second Place - P5,000 worth of Toby's Gift Certificates
Third Place - P2,000 worth of Toby's Gift Certificates
Skateboarding Team Competition
First Place - P25,000 worth of Toby's Gift Certificates
Second Place - P15,000 worth of Toby's Gift Certificates
Third Place - P10,000 worth of Toby's Gift Certificates

OBSTACLE RELAY
June 9, SM Megamall
First Place - P25,000 worth of SM Gift Certificates
Second Place - P15,000 worth of SM Gift Certificates
Third Place - P10,000 worth of SM Gift Certificates

get loads of cooL StUFF
JOIN THE MALL RAFFLES...

Exciting prizes at stake in each of our four mall raffles:
- Five (5) P1,000 AstroVision Gift Certificates
- Five (5) P1,000 Radio City Gift Certificates
- Five (5) P1,000 SM Gift Certificates
- Five (5) P1,000 National Bookstore Gift Certificates
- Five (5) P1,000 SM Cinema Cards

Just fill out the raffle coupon with your name, address, telephone number and signature. Then, drop in designated dropboxes at all participating outlets. See posters and flyers for details.
Promo period: May 11 to June 30, 2002

...AND GRAND RAFFLE DRAW!
119 prizes at stake in the Grand Raffle on July 15, 2002
- Two (2) Sony Playstation 2
- Two (2) Pioneer VCD/DVD Players
- Five (5) Nokia 8310 Cellular Phones
- Five (5) Philips Boomboxes
- Five (5) Palm m100s
- Ten (10) P5,000 Tower Records Gift Certificates
- Ten (10) P5,000 Friday's Gift Certificates
- Ten (10) Sony Discmans
- Ten (10) Nike Watches
- Twenty (20) Unilever Gift Packs worth P2,000 each
- Twenty (20) P2,000 AstroVision Gift Certificates
- Twenty (20) P2,000 National Bookstore Gift Certificates

That's the spirit.

Participating brands:
Barbie, Bobson, Bossini, Chancellor 9000, Colours, Crissa, Ego, Freego, Habitat, Hanes, Hanes Her Way, Hanford, Hartmann, Jag, Looney Toons, Mickey Unlimited, Mr. Lee, No Fear, Puritan, Rough Rider, Snoopy, U2, and Wrangler.

Participating outlets:
Beagle House, Blues Bros., Bobson, Bossini, Cartoon Studio, Habitat, Jag, and Wrangler outlets.

SM SUPERMALLS
QUIAPO • MAKATI • CUBAO • HARRISON • NORTH EDSA • STA. MESA
ORTIGAS • LAS PIÑAS • BACOOR • FAIRVIEW • MANILA • PAMPANGA

Official Radio Stations

In cooperation with:

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1794, Series of 2002.

CECILE Licad with Rudolf Serkin

The great mentors behind the great prodigies

From page D1

musical life thus: "He taught me not to be afraid to take risks. He said, 'Do what you believe; your conviction will make the music alive.' I have always taken his advice."

In her early homecoming concerts to Manila, Licad's must on her guest list was always her first teacher, Rosario Picazo, who also studied under Isabelle Vengerova like Del Rosario. By coincidence, Picazo—like Sister Battig—was also an exponent of the Liszt-Leschetizky approach to the keyboard.

From Picazo's point of view, students should be taught to study technique, rhythm, tempo, interpretation and expression as carefully and as meticulously as they do the notes.

A teacher's mind, added Picazo, must be trained to think, to plan, to understand while his whole playing mechanism must be trained to execute.

By Picazo's book, it is not enough that a student play the notes correctly: "Sounding the notes of a composition at the right moment and in the right way, as demanded by its creator, is of great importance," she added in her book, "Piano Technique and Interpretation."

What I didn't read in the Picazo book was, if it was proper that pianists be judged in the accountant's way, that is, correct notes minus wrong notes.

Because in my layman's book, it is better to hear a few stray notes than to listen to a note-perfect recital lulling you to slumberland.

Here and there

NINE-YEAR-OLD Ma. Regina Montesclaros will give her debut recital on May 31, 6:30 p.m., at the Antonio Molina Hall of PCI Bank. Her repertoire consists of Bach's Two-Part Inventions (Nos. 8, 13, 14), Mozart's Sonata in C Major KV 545, Schumann's Album for the Young, contemporary pieces by Kasilag and Bartok, and Haydn's Piano Concerto in C Major. She is a pupil of Cecile Basilio Roxas of Sta. Isabel College.

Trumpets to restage musical

ABOUT 350 men, women and children queued up for the auditions of Trumpets' "The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe."

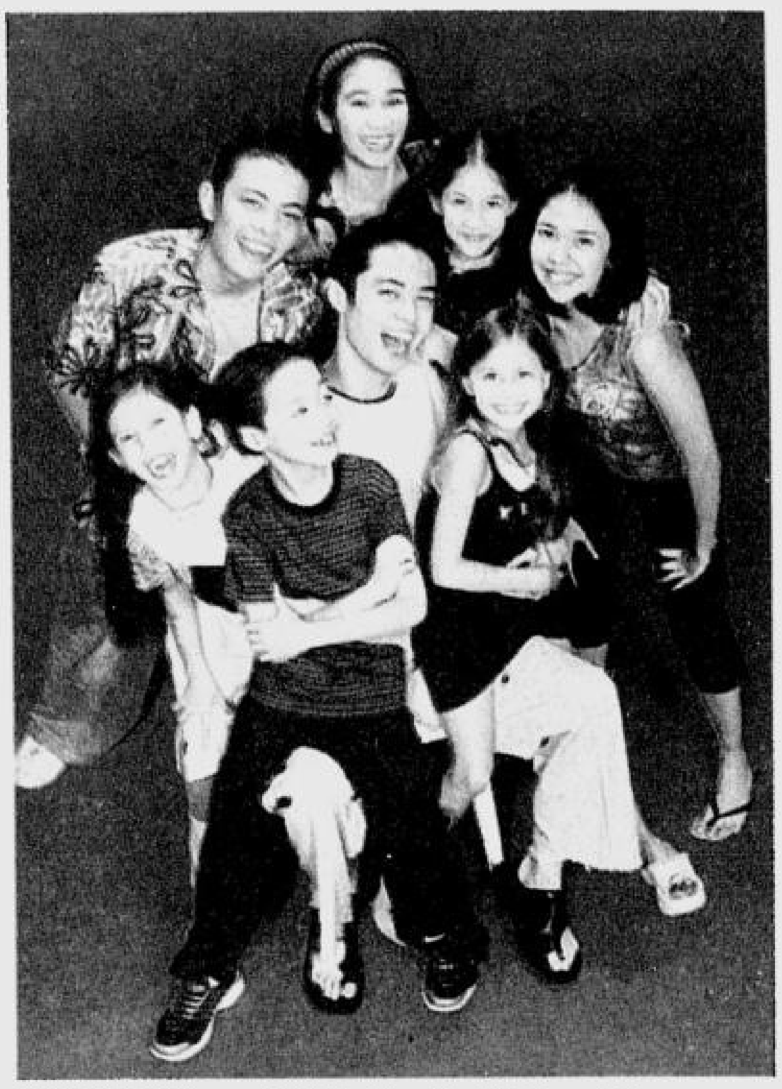
One of the objectives of this exercise was to find two sets of children to play the lead roles in this fabulous musical based on the classic children's novel by renowned British author C.S. Lewis. Roles being cast were for the Pevensie children—the endearing 10-year-old Lucy; the problematic 12-year-old Edmund; the rather motherly older sister Susan; and the on-the-verge-of-manhood eldest brother Peter.

The exercise was such a success that 60 teens and kids were called back for a rigorous six-hour workshop and selection process.

First, the children were taught the songs they would sing in the musical. Then the children were mixed and matched according to age and height, since they had to look like brothers and sisters. Finally, they were asked to sing the songs they had learned.

After four hours, the list of 60 had been whittled down to 18, and by 8 p.m., "The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe" had its young cast.

Peter will be played alternately by Franco Mabanta, better known as "Jasper" in the now well-known series of soda commercials, and Paolo Valenciano—who, yes, is the son of Gary Valenciano but, on his own merit, has been an outstanding student of Trumpets' Playshop for the past two years. Relative unknown Michael Ramirez will understudy the role.



THE KIDS of Trumpets' "The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe": (Clockwise, from top) Crisel Consunji, Alexa Ortega, Camille Cabrera, Cheska Ortega, Sam Concepsion, Moreen Guese, Paolo Valenciano and Franco Mabanta (center).

All three acquitted themselves with great aplomb and exhibited the blend of charm, naïveté, assertiveness and responsibility required of a boy on the threshold of adulthood.

Cast as Susan, the "Ate" of the group, are Camille Cabrera, whose first major stage role was as the younger sister Lucy in the 1997 and 1998 productions of "The Lion, The King and The Wardrobe," and another theater veteran from Repertory Philippines, Crisel Consunji. Tanya Manalang, another Lucy now grown up, will understudy.

Edmund, the pivotal role of traitor turned hero, will be portrayed by Playshop Kids Sam Concepcion and Iñaki Ting, with Javvy Ortega, also a Playshop Kid, as understudy.

The role of the adorable Lucy will be shared by TV personality Moreen Guese and Playshop Kid Alexa Ortega, with Alexa's younger sister Chesca waiting in the wings for her turn on the boards.

Still up for grabs are the roles of the Lion, the White Witch, Father Christmas, Tumnus the Faun and Mr. and Mrs. Beaver.

"The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe" will open at the Meralco Theater in August. Call 633-5010.

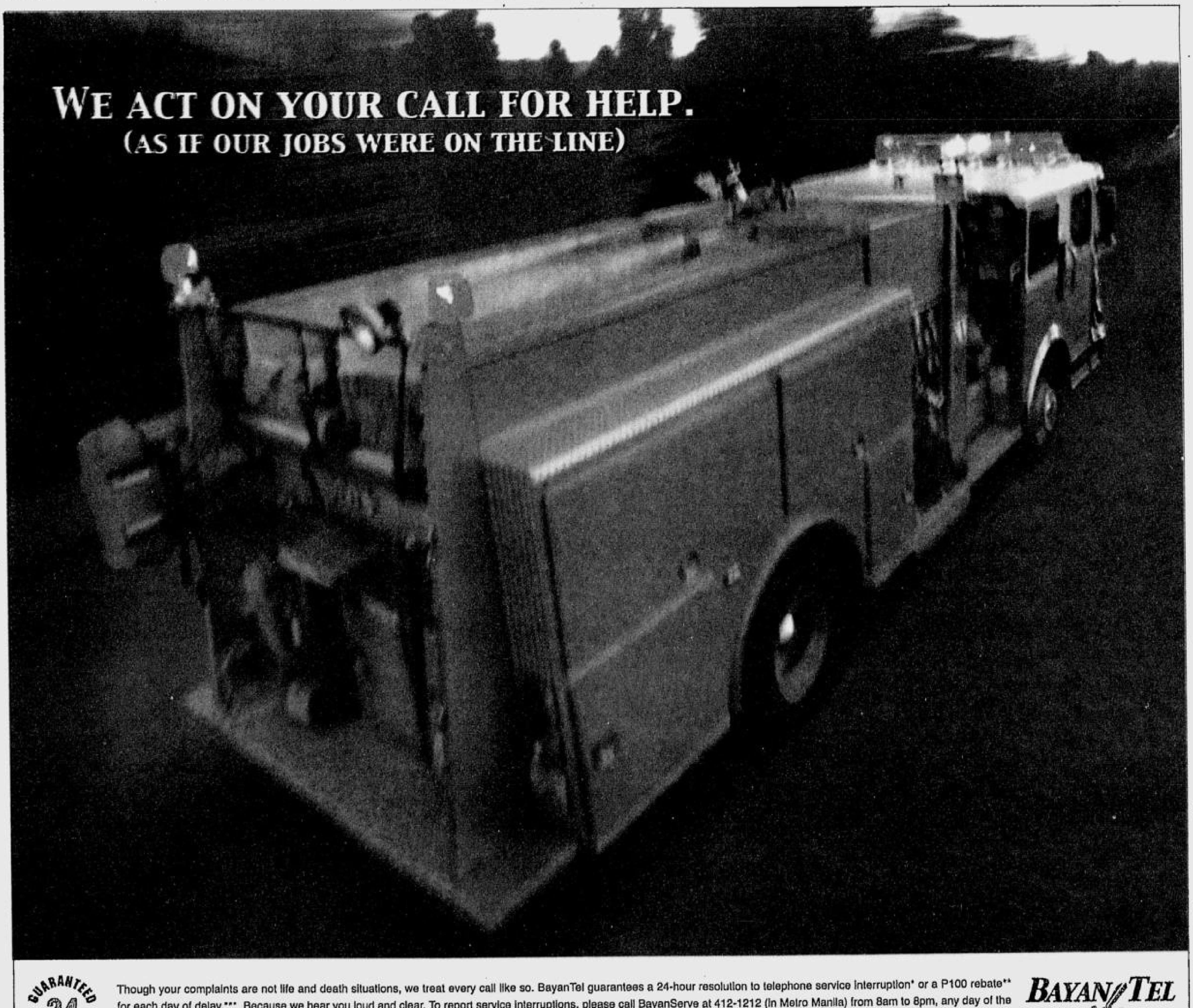
Dramatis Personae holds audition

DRAMATIS Personae announces open auditions for its 15th theater season.

The plays include the stage adaptation of Akira Kurosawa's "Rashomon," a complex vision of the nature of reality, of what is real and what man thinks is real, and a classic statement of relativism, the unknowability of truth, slated for July to August; August Strindberg's "A Dream Play," an attempt to interpret human life through memory, imagination, the dream experience in its various forms and the unconscious, rather than through reason and evidence of the five senses, slated for September to October; Henrik Ibsen's "Brand," about an uncompromising clergyman who lives in terms of his stern theology, slated for November to December; and Fernando de Roxas' "Celestina," an exceptional masterpiece of the Spanish Golden Age, slated for February to March 2003.

All plays will be staged at the Pius XII Theater, Pius XII Catholic Center, United Nations Avenue, Manila.

Call 722-4205, (0919) 225-4774, (0919) 418-7696 or e-mail dramatis_personae@email.com, or visit www.softrigger.com/dp.


WE ACT ON YOUR CALL FOR HELP.
(AS IF OUR JOBS WERE ON THE LINE)

GUARANTEED 24 HOUR QUICK RESPONSE

Though your complaints are not life and death situations, we treat every call like so. BayanTel guarantees a 24-hour resolution to telephone service interruption* or a P100 rebate** for each day of delay.*** Because we hear you loud and clear. To report service interruptions, please call BayanServe at 412-1212 (in Metro Manila) from 8am to 8pm, any day of the week. For our provincial subscribers, kindly call the following: 171 for Bicol, Agusan and Eastern Visayas, 300-1212 for Davao City, and 301-1212 for General Santos City.

BAYANTEL
BETTER THAN EVER

* Applies only to local exchange lines **Maximum rebate for a billing period shall not exceed monthly basic service charge + FCA. Rebate will be computed per line and credited to succeeding month's billing ***Except those resulting from acts of God, fortuitous events and other reasons beyond BayanTel's control.

UOBP REACHES OUT TO KIDS

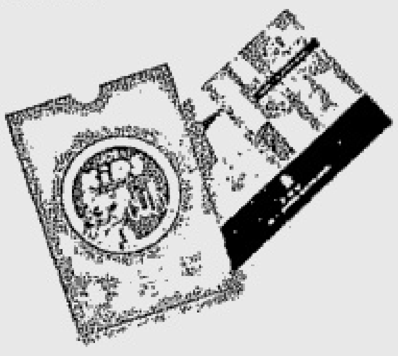
Yobi says, "Start them young, start them right."

Kids learn fast and keep what they learn, especially when the process of learning is fun. This is the philosophy behind the newest product offering of the United Overseas Bank Philippines— the Kiddie Deposit Savers Account. And Yobi is our Kiddie Savers' friend.

Now, you can help your children develop the habit of saving, the fun and easy way. When you open a Kiddie Deposit Savers Account for your child, you also entitle him to membership in the UOB KiDS Club, earning him a host of special perks and privileges— instant rewards for learning a valuable, lifetime habit.

These rewards are packed into a privilege card your kid can use for discounts, freebies and treats in various accredited establishments. We are tying up with a hundred stores, restaurants and merchants to maximize the range of choices and advantages your kid can avail of. With a privilege card of his own, not only can your kid enjoy things for himself, he can also share them with family and friends, giving him a new sense of worth and maturity.

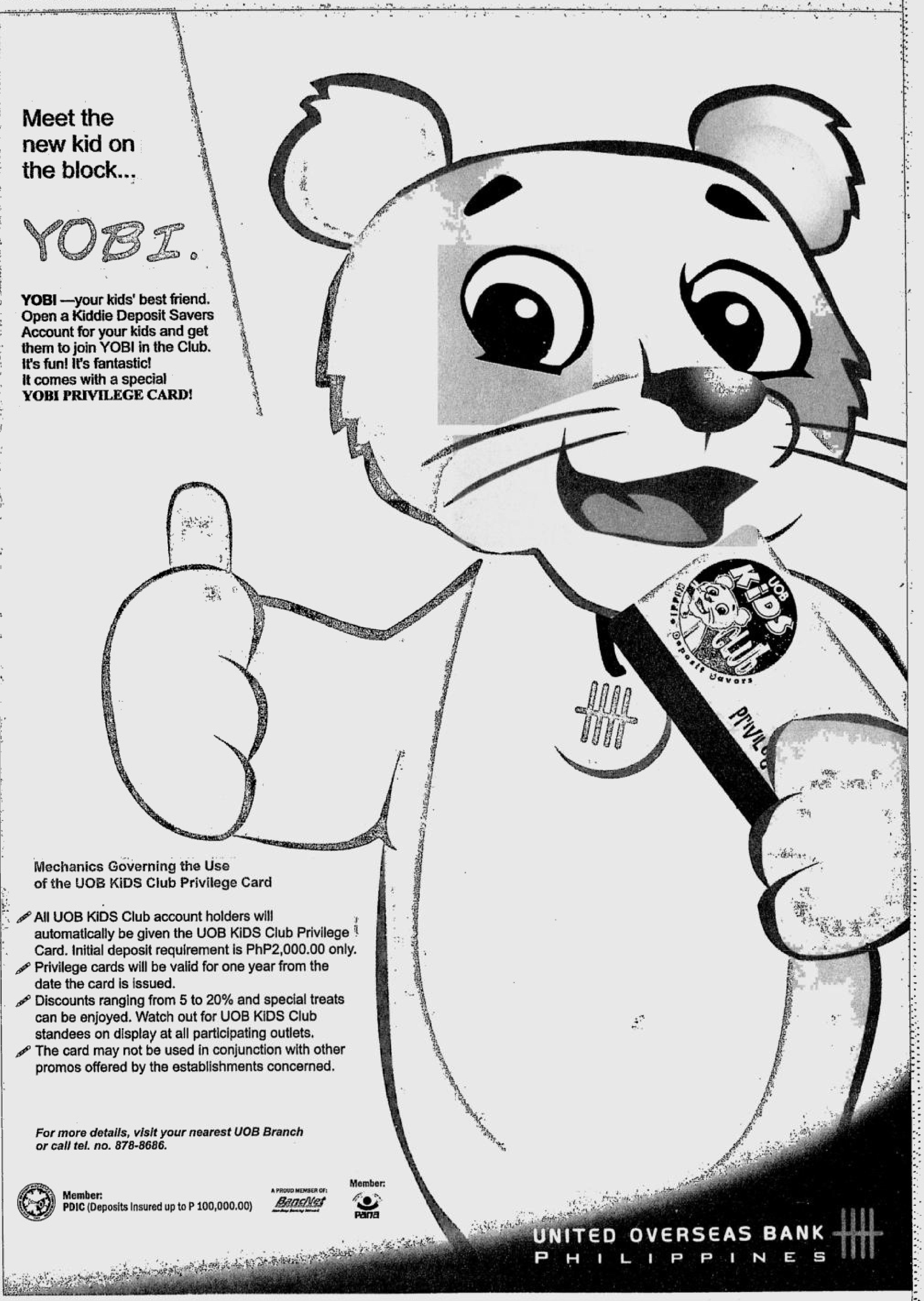
The Kiddie Deposit Savers Account is for kids twelve years old and younger. "In-trust-for" accounts may be opened for newborns and infants, and in such cases, the privilege card shall be issued to and used by the parent or guardian. You can open a Kiddie Deposit Savers Account for an initial deposit of only P2,000.



Expanding Menu of Services

Since its entry into the Philippine banking scene in 1999, United Overseas Bank Philippines has endeavored to offer its clients a menu of products and services that would be most responsive to their needs and lifestyles.

The Kiddie Deposit Savers Account comes on the heels of the Check Premium Account or CPA that UOBP launched to give its depositors more earning power and flexibility in their checking accounts. The CPA gives a maximum interest rate of 5 per cent per annum, based on a tiered rate system. It also comes with a passbook for easy monitoring and an ATM card as may be requested by individual depositors. Initial deposit required for a Check Premium Account is P20,000.



Meet the new kid on the block...

YOBI.

YOBI —your kids' best friend. Open a Kiddie Deposit Savers Account for your kids and get them to join YOBI in the Club. It's fun! It's fantastic! It comes with a special **YOBI PRIVILEGE CARD!**

Mechanics Governing the Use of the UOB KiDS Club Privilege Card

- All UOB KiDS Club account holders will automatically be given the UOB KiDS Club Privilege Card. Initial deposit requirement is PhP2,000.00 only.
- Privilege cards will be valid for one year from the date the card is issued.
- Discounts ranging from 5 to 20% and special treats can be enjoyed. Watch out for UOB KiDS Club standees on display at all participating outlets.
- The card may not be used in conjunction with other promos offered by the establishments concerned.

For more details, visit your nearest UOB Branch or call tel. no. 878-8686.

Member:
PDIC (Deposits Insured up to P 100,000.00)

A PROUD MEMBER OF: BancNet

Member: Pana

UNITED OVERSEAS BANK
PHILIPPINES

UOBP is also offering a new Home Loan Program, for customers who wish to acquire lots, construct a house or renovate, partly or fully, their homes. Loanable amount ranges from P400,000 to P15 Million, based on the applicant's capacity to pay.

The loan program also boasts of easy and flexible repayment terms with the duration extending to a maximum of 20 years, as may be negotiated with the Bank's Credit and Marketing Group.

More product options are still being explored at present, as the Bank fine tunes its services according to the changing demands and growing sophistication of its clientele. An active member of BancNet, it is in the midst of testing new channels to harness information technology towards more convenient servicing of customer needs. In particular, it has expanded its ATM services to offer more alternatives to the traditional over-the-counter transactions. The Bank has 30 strategically located ATMs to serve you.

UOB KiDS
UOB KiDS CLUB
Kiddie Deposit Savers
Privilege Card

Organizational Strengthening

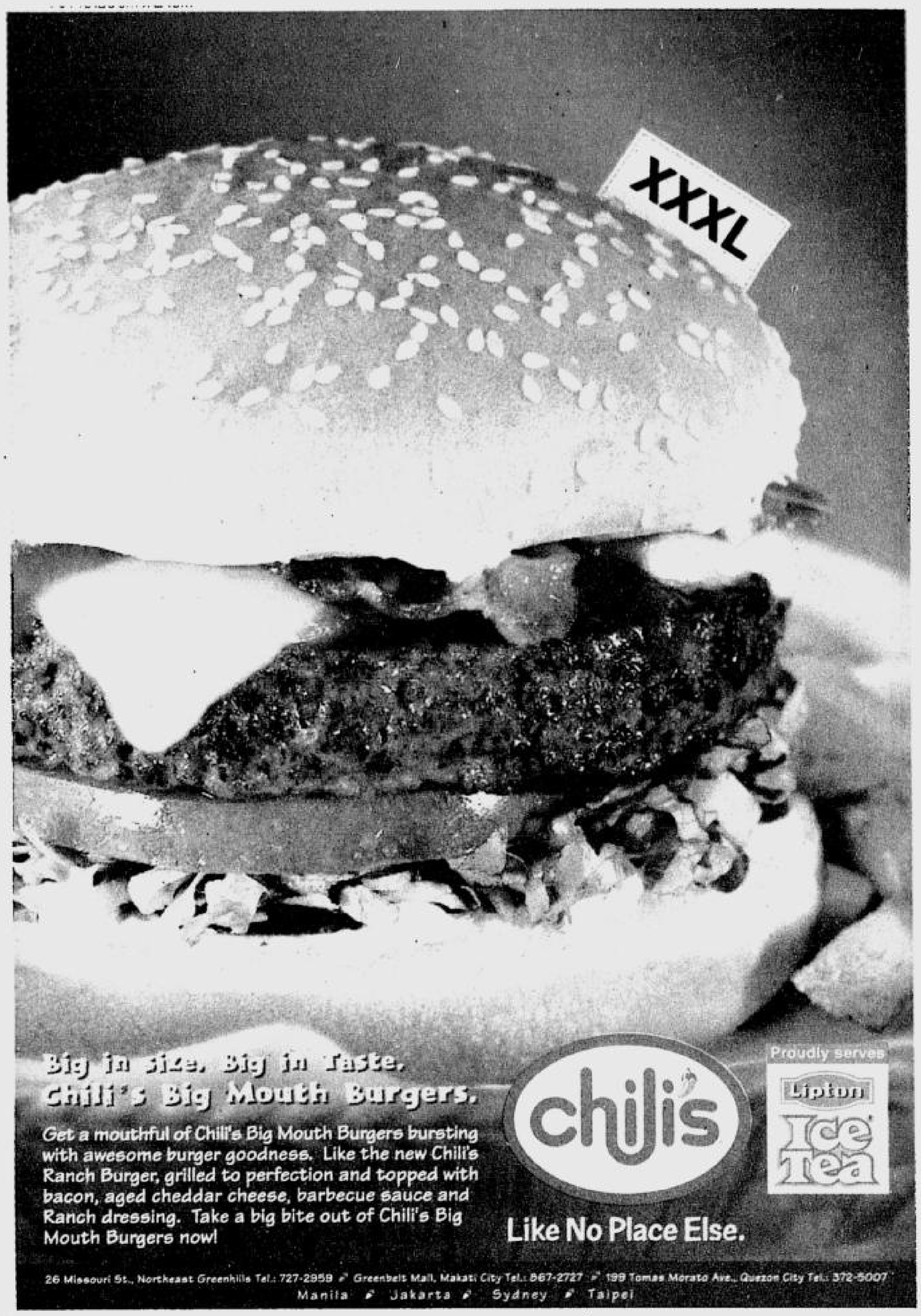
Simultaneously, the Bank carries forward the organizational streamlining initiatives it started last year. It continues to implement the Branch Integration and Rationalization Program which includes the consolidation, conveyance and relocation of selected branches to more profitable sites. By prioritizing its target business areas, the Bank gives its operations more focus and consistency, edging closer to the leaner but stronger branch network it envisions.

It likewise pushes ahead with the upgrade and reinforcement of its systems and technology structures. The CASA-GL interface program is ongoing in its branches, paving the way for more computer-driven backroom operations. This is part of the holistic Branch Service Enhancement Program or BSEP it has launched to sharpen the operational, marketing and customer service capabilities of its branches.

The Singapore Family

UOBP enjoys the advantage of belonging to the formidable United Overseas Bank Group, now the largest in Singapore and one of the most respected financial institutions in Asia. UOB is now in the midst of integrating operations with Overseas Union Bank which it acquired last year. It has been named one of the safest banks in the world and has earned numerous accolades from various organizations for management and operational excellence. The distinctions it has reaped include: "Asia's 3rd Strongest Bank" and "Strongest Bank in Singapore" from Asiamoney; "Best Bank in Singapore" from US-based Global Finance. It is also rated highly by the world's credit rating groups. Last year, the Group registered a net profit of S$925 Million (US$500 Million), increasing its profitability even in times of regional financial difficulties.

UOB was established in 1935 and has charted a history of remarkable growth in the last 67 years, expanding its operations into allied businesses, backed up by an international network of branches and offices. Its presence in the Philippines is an integral part of its vision to be a premier regional bank.



**Big in Size. Big in Taste.
Chili's Big Mouth Burgers.**

Get a mouthful of Chili's Big Mouth Burgers bursting with awesome burger goodness. Like the new Chili's Ranch Burger, grilled to perfection and topped with bacon, aged cheddar cheese, barbecue sauce and Ranch dressing. Take a big bite out of Chili's Big Mouth Burgers now!

chili's
Like No Place Else.

Proudly serves Lipton Ice Tea

26 Missouri St., Northeast Greenhills Tel.: 727-2959 • Greenbelt Mall, Makati City Tel.: 867-2727 • 199 Tomas Morato Ave., Quezon City Tel.: 372-5007
Manila • Jakarta • Sydney • Taipei

'Duo' at RCBC Plaza

MARITONI Rufino-Tordesillas, directress of Danspace, and Mylene Saldana, directress of Turning Point School of Ballet, will hold their first grand recital at the RCBC Plaza on May 28, 6 p.m.

Aptly titled "Duo," the production is a reunion of two former ballerinas of the Philippine Ballet Theater who once shared the stage dancing many memorable roles. After 10 years, they share the stage once more, this time as ballet teachers showcasing the talents of their students.

"Duo" will open with the third act wedding scene from "The Sleeping Beauty" and will end with excerpts from favorite Walt Disney themes set to ballet.

Lending support and inspiration are guest artists, Jared Tan, Tara Ferrer, Sydney Ignacio from the Philippine Ballet Theater, and Nina Habulan.

MARITONI Rufino-Tordesillas and Mylene Saldana

Fil-Am theater group wins Obie

AT THE 47TH Annual Obie Awards held at New York's Webster Hall, the Ma-Yi Theater Company was honored with an Obie Award for its excellence and focus on Asian-American theater. The Obie Awards are Off Broadway's most prestigious recognition of excellence in theater.

In accepting the award, Jorge Ortoll, executive director of Ma-Yi, challenged the audience to name plays written by Asian-American writers currently running Off Broadway. The question stumped the audience, and drove home the importance of Ma-Yi Theater's mission.

Also on hand for the award was Ma-Yi's artistic director Ralph Peña, who acknowledged the contribution of the Alliance of Resident Theaters to the growth of the company, and the assistance of George C. Wolfe and the Public Theater in Ma-Yi's recent production of "The Square." Some recipients of the 2001 Obie Award included George C. Wolfe, Ingmar Bergman, Martha Plimpton, The Ensemble of Carl Hancock's "Talk," Peter Freschette and Tony Kushner.

Founded in 1989, Ma-Yi seeks to develop and produce new plays and performance works that essay the Asian-American experience. Since its founding, Ma-Yi's focus on the development of new works has made it the foremost incubator of new Asian-American theater talents in the United States. Its recent sold-out workshop production of "The Romance of Magno Rubio" is slated for an Off-Broadway opening in the fall at the new Daryl Roth Theater on Union Square. Also in development are new plays by Ralph Peña, Alice Tuan, Ed Bok Lee, Julia Cho, Sun Rno and Michael Kang.

AIWA is on a...

DIGITAL REVOLUTION

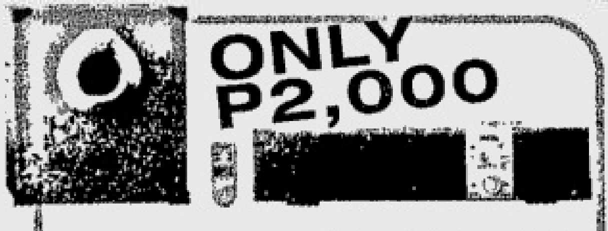
Get the digital technology in sound and audio that you've always dreamed of. Take advantage of this special revolution that will give you more value for your money. Catch the details and enjoy crisp colors and vivid visuals with AIWA 63.5 cm (25") Flat TV and bring home a 2-Piece Home Theater System at a huge discount. For music and sound enthusiasts, enjoy the quality sound of MP3 in the AIWA VCD Component. It has a sleek and modern body plus a Motorized Slide Cassette Window. Get it now at a special discounted price and at 0% Interest Rate for installment purchases.

63.5 cm (25") Flat-TV (TV-F2500)

Only P22,990.00 for cash
or P2,975.69 per month for 9 mos*
and get a 2-Piece Home Theater System for only P2,000

- 63.5 cm (25") Full Flat Colour Picture Tube
- MTS Stereo/SAP Broadcast Reception
- Digital Comb Filter
- Audio Output Power 10W + 10W
- Front 2 Speaker System
- VM, BBE, Q-Surround, Super Bass
- S-Video Input Terminal (Front/Rear)
- Closed Caption
- Multi AV-Enhancer (Normal, Cinema, Game, Dimmer)

Now at 0% Interest Rate up to 12 months
MP3 CD PLAYBACK



For every purchase of AIWA 63.5 cm (25") Flat TV, you can buy this Home Theater Surround System for only P2,000. You get to save as much as P5,990

2-Piece TV Set-up Home Theater Surround System (HE-501)

Worth P7,990.00

- 25W X 2ch., 60W Subwoofer (RMS)
- 2 Speaker System + Subwoofer
  Front Speaker: 88mm X 2
  Subwoofer: 200mm
- Q Surround

VCD Mini Hi-Fi (XS-V30)

Original Price: P18,990.00
now: P15,490.00 only for cash
or only P1,290.83 a month for 12 mos.

- 3000W PMPO
- Dynamic Integrated Neo Amplifier
- Motorized Slide Window
- 3-VCD, MP3-CD, CD-R/RW, CD Playback
- BBE & Super T-Bass
- Slot-in Single Auto Reverse Cassette Deck
- 2-Way Bass Reflex Speaker System

voted by readers SUPER BRAND Gold 2002 Reader's Digest Philippines

Per DTI-NCR Per DTI-NCR Permit no. 2088. Series of 2002.

Visit these participating stores and outlets now. Promo until June 15, 2002 only.
METRO MANILA-Abenson, Inc., Anson Emporium, Automatic Centre, AV Surfer, Emilio S. Lim Appliances, Best Brands, SM Appliance Center, Western Marketing, • **NORTH LUZON**-City Supermarket, Inc., Magic Appliance Center • **SOUTH LUZON**-Alson's Trading, Electromart, Normel Marketing, People's Marketing, RRS Marketing, Willy & Son's Corp.• **VISAYAS**-DU EK SAM, Gleen Marketing, Imperial Appliance, Nig Marketing • **MINDANAO**-Golden Bell Commercial, Inc., GV Marketing, RJ Homes

aiwa Distributed by SOLID DISTRIBUTORS, INC. 2/F Solid House Bldg., 2285 Don Chino Roces Ext., Makati City. For product or promo inquiries, please call: 843-1541 to 48 loc. 164 or email us at aiwagold@mail.sen.com.ph. For service information, please call: 456-8888 or email customercare@solidservice.com.ph. Insist on an AIWA Official Warranty

Special Reduced and 0% Interest Rates available for Credit Card Installment Purchases

AIG Credit Cards
BPI Express Credit
citibank
Equitable CARD

- * computation based on BPI reduced installment rates
- Credit Card Transactions for installment is subject to bank approval
- Factor Rate varies depending on the credit card company

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
For feedback, text us at (0918)917-5026 or email us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph
LIFESTYLE

The decay of a Manansala

The deterioration of the master's mural at the National Press Club reflects our uncaring attitude toward culture

By Constantino C. Tejero

IT might originally have a title, but it has been invariably called The Manansala at the Press Club. Installed in the restaurant-bar on the fourth floor of the National Press Club Building in Intramuros, it is seriously deteriorating, and soon it could become one more lost item from our heritage.

"It is located in a hostile environment," says NPC president Louie Logarta. "There's a hot kitchen at the back, and then people are eating or drinking around—you know, *bangga-bangga*."

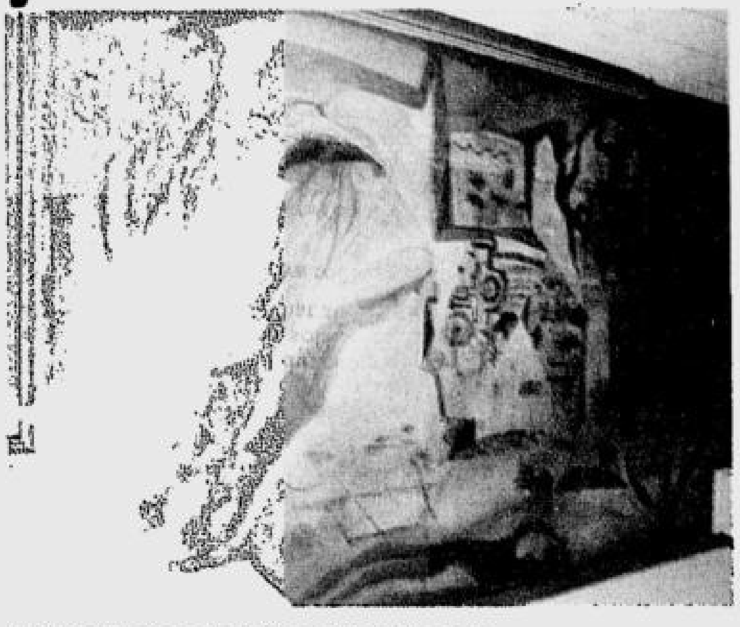
The mighty artwork is National Artist Vicente Manansala's visual allegory of the power and freedom of the press and the corruption that goes with it. It was done in oil or acrylic on the textured side of some 20 pieces of *lawanit* boards glued together on the wall, primed white, then painted with curvilinear forms and geometric shapes in earth and flesh tones, with some patches of green, gray, blue and red.

The mural's main body has a dimension of 12 m x 3 m, while an extension at upper right is 4 m x 1 m. It was completed in 1955, for approximately P20,000-P50,000. Business magnate Eugenio Lopez Sr. donated it to the Press Club the year its now landmark four-story building was erected at the foot of Jones Bridge.

Complex imagery

The artwork has a complex imagery. It is a cityscape with elongated human figures flying or floating across the scenery, depicting a *cause de scandale* of the time. The scene is dominated by the stern visage of then Senate president Eulogio "Amang" Rodriguez Jr. grasping the face of a newspaperman receiving bribe money.

Here are the skyline and infrastructure of postwar Manila, landmarks easily recognizable even today, such as Escolta, Quiapo Church,



A VISUAL allegory of the power, freedom and corruption of the press

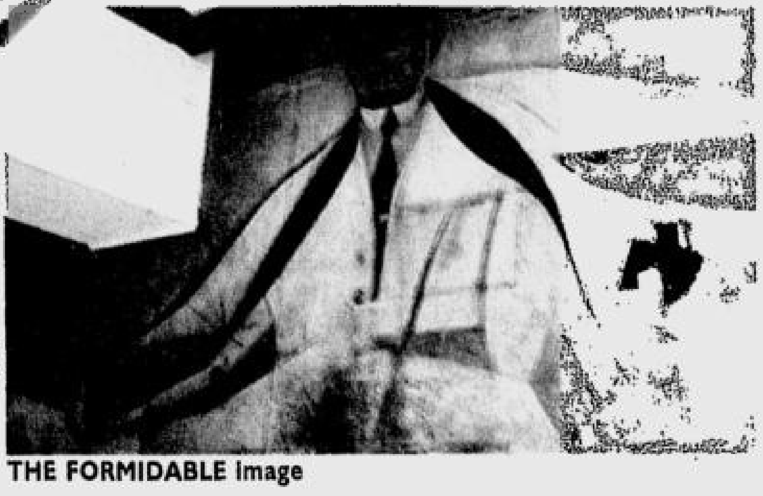
Quezon Bridge, Jones Bridge, Old Congress.

In this urban landscape can be seen a host of symbols and details: naked human figures toiling or floating from the flames (like spirits from the "Inferno"), clouds, stricken birds, gasping fish, sinister bats, a printing press with machinery and workers, an antique Underwood typewriter, electric posts, tenements and shanties, a crescent moon, the three proverbial monkeys.

The wall where the artwork is mounted has three openings, which destroy the unity or interrupt the flow of the imagery. There are a single door on the left and a double door at the center (both shuttered with plywood, painted azure), and a 4 m x 1 m glass sliding window on the right (service window of the kitchen behind the artwork).

Logarta suspects the mural has had an original wholeness ruined in latter days when

THE DECAY/ p.E4



THE FORMIDABLE image

Donut de Fruta
frosted fruit flavored donuts
DUNKIN' DONUTS
P99
a dozen

WHAT'S ON
AT ROBINSONS
Little Miss
San Fernandino 2002
Coronation Night
Cheer on Pampanga's most beautiful, smartest and most talented little ladies as they vie for the crown.
May 27, Monday, 4pm
Robinsons Starmills Pampanga
STARMILLS
ROBINSONS PAMPANGA
visit us at www.robinsonsland.com
Piestang FERNANDINO 2002

GETAWAY
RESORTS & HOTELS GUIDE
BOHOL
Crystal Coast
A Place of Paradise
BOHOL GETAWAY 2002
3D/2N-TRI-SHARING P3,750
CHOCO HILLS & PANGLAO ISLAND TOUR
Mla: 634.2028 Main: (038) 411.3179
www.lnrocagroup.com
BORACAY
Waling-Waling
BEACH HOTEL BORACAY
Avail Our Promo Package
Tel. 896-9456 to 58
Fax. 02-8969451
boracay@philonline.com
BULACAN
Jed's Island Calumpit Resort
MC ARTHUR HIGHWAY, BULACAN
☎ 711-7265 / 741-4480
OPEN 24 HOURS
10% DISCOUNT
ADULT - P80.00
CHILDREN - P40.00
FREE CORKAGE
FOR RESERVATION: CALL LARRY OR GRACE
LAGUNA
Riverview
RESORT & CONFERENCE CENTER
CALAMBA, LAGUNA www.riverview.com.ph
FAMILY GETAWAY
P 2,999 3D/2N
W/ FREE BREAKFAST
MLA OFC: 925-8858
TEL.: (049)545-1856/2112
Royal Palm
RESORT & CONFERENCE CENTER
BAY, LAGUNA
SEMINAR PACKAGE P 780 / PAX
•COMPANY & FAMILY OUTINGS
•GARDEN WEDDING W/ CARROZA
MLA. OFC. 531-3132 / 533-0693
TEL. (049) 249-3977
SUBIC
FOREST HILLS
Village Resort
SUBIC BAY
50% OFF
TELEFAX: 725-0354
TEL: 726-2541
LEGENDA
HOTEL
TEL. (02) 732-9888
SUBIC SUMMER PROMO
P 2,550+
inclusive of B'fast for 2
Promo Period: Ongoing until 31 May '02
HOTELS & SUITES
BAYVIEW PARK HOTEL MANILA
"Your Home by the Bay"
WEEKEND FAMILY TREAT
ONLY Php 3,555++ FOR SATURDAY & SUNDAY STAY
W/ FREE BREAKFAST FOR FAMILY OF 4
526-1555 / 1-800-1888-5555
corp_sales@bayview.com.ph
Microtel Inns & Suites
FAX: 817-3942
SALES & RESERVATIONS:
☎813-7523/813-8553
CELL #: 0917-888-1-800
Website: www.microtelinn.com
www.microtelphil.com
•EAGLE RIDGE, CAVITE, GEN. TRIAS
Tel. No. (046) 509-3333
CELL #: 0917-4138140
•STO. TOMAS, BATANGAS 1st PHIL. INDUST'L PARK
Tel. No. (043) 4058957
CELL #: 0917-8338239
•LUISITA, TARLAC PLAZA LUISITA MALL
Tel. No. (045) 9851770
CELL #: 0917-8170866
•OR. MINDORO, FILIPINIANA, CALAPAN CITY
Tel. No. (043) 2862624
CELL #: 0917-5820265
For inquiries call 912-8983

Before
After
NOW OPEN!!!
Bergmann Hair Studio
Unit 1209 Medical Plaza Makati
cor. Amorsolo and dela Rosa Sts.,
Salcedo Village, Makati City
Tel. No. 844-0580
Wednesdays & Saturdays - 9AM-6PM
By Appointment only
Thinning Hair, Ladies?
No need to hide under tissed-up hair stiffened by hair spray or a raggedy hat.
Bergmann Germany's 127 years experience in providing hair solutions to people worldwide will give you back your lost crowning glory.
Attend that party, get together with friends, swim on the beach in full confidence.
Thinning hair, bald patches, or just the whim to make it longer or simple let it loose - we will help you look good - in style.
Call us now at 807-2627 or 807-2311
BERGMANN
HAIR SYSTEMS
20th Floor • Richville Corporate Tower • Alabang-Zapote Road
Madrigal Business Park • Muntinlupa City
e-mail: bergmann@access.net.ph • www.bergmann.de•www.volu-med.com

UP, ATENEO, LA SALLE
College Entrance Test Review
VENUES: ALABANG, KATIPUNAN, GREENHILLS-ORTIGAS; MANILA, MAKATI
AHEAD
TUTORIAL & REVIEW
A+
426-0034 to 36 0917-8911187
www.ahead.com.ph

CHEVROLET
VENTURE
Summer's biggest attraction.
Subic? Nah, Batangas. How about Bataan? The beach is beautiful this time of year. Whatever. Wherever. Finally there's one thing about family outings that everyone can agree on. It'll be a lot more comfortable driving to your destination in the new Chevrolet Venture. Plush, sofa-style seats, safety belts for all ten passengers, a multi-adjustable steering wheel for comfy driving and a spacious luggage compartment to put all your bags and your cooler in. No, the floating bed. What about the portable grill? The beach umbrellas, and...
We're sure everyone would want to come along for the test drive too. Go to the GM Autoworld retailer nearest you.
Family Rated: The Perfect IQ Minivan.
See the New Chevrolet Venture at
www.generalmotors.com.ph
GM AutoWorld MAKATI
2307 Pasong Tamo Extension, Makati City
Tel. Nos. 843-0217 to 20 / 843-0228
814-0803 / 814-0838
GM AutoWorld QUEZON AVENUE
1231 Quezon Ave., Quezon City
Tel. Nos.. 374-1250 to 59 / 413-8133
372-6001, 415-8878
Fax No.: 372-6008
GM AutoWorld SHAW
500 Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City
Tel. Nos.. 535-4944 / 535-4938
533-1263
Fax No.: 535-4937 / 535-4935
GM AutoWorld PAMPANGA
MacArthur Highway, Dolores,
City of San Fernando, Pampanga
Tel Nos (045) 961-2002, (045) 860-2000
Tel/Fax No: (045) 961-2003
GM AutoWorld CEBU
Gov. Cuenco Ave., Cebu City
Tel No (32) 234-0428
Fax No. (32) 231-7760
GM AutoWorld showrooms are open 7 days a week.
GM AutoWorld

Human nature and human vs nature

By Gino Dormiendo
Contributor

TWO SHOWS this month by two equally young and highly individualistic artists explore the intertwining themes of human nature, and the relation between humans and nature.

The first—by painter, installation and performance artist Ronaldo Ruiz—is a provocative and meditative show on the juxtaposition of that fundamental but little-discussed issue in our society: the nature of love and lust.

Titled "Love/Lust (Painstallacion)," (Boston Galllery, until May 27), the show opened last May 11 with an afternoon of lectures, video screenings and performances by members of the Philippine International Performance Art Foundation led by Ruiz and guest Sheji Shimoda from Japan.

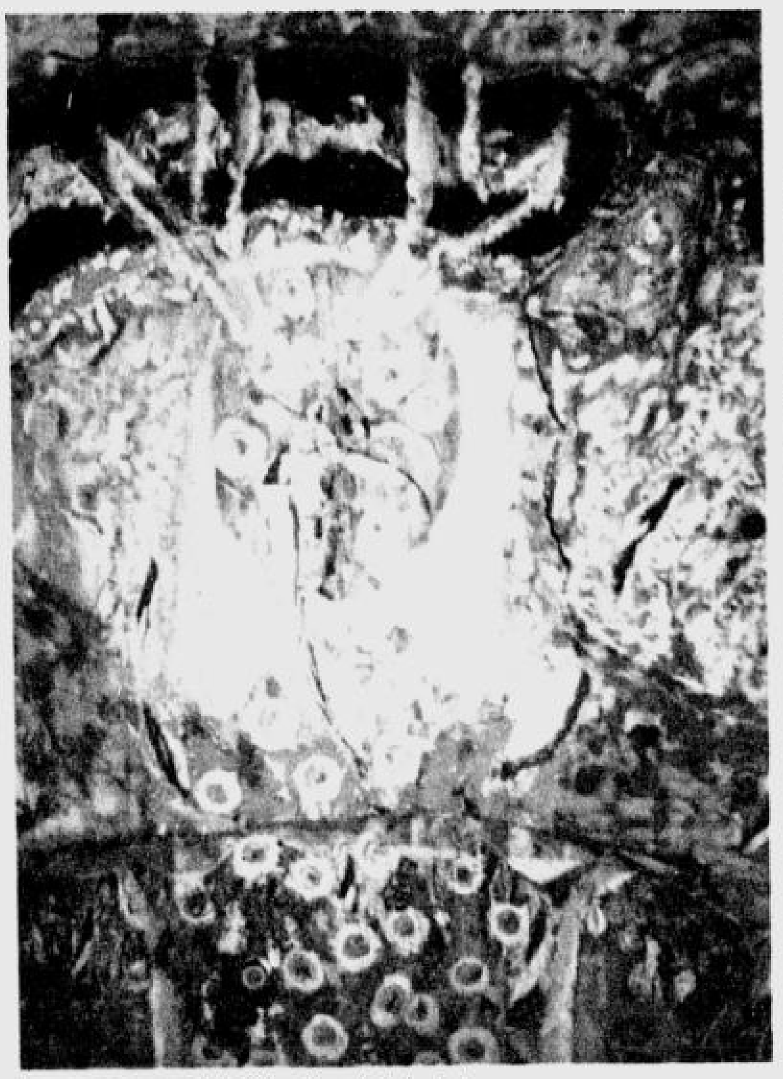
Of the performers, it was Yuan Mor'O Ocampo's number—he carried huge ice blocks and burned flame-igniting gadgets on them—that mesmerized the audience, a timely lesson on the relations between the elemental ice and fire.

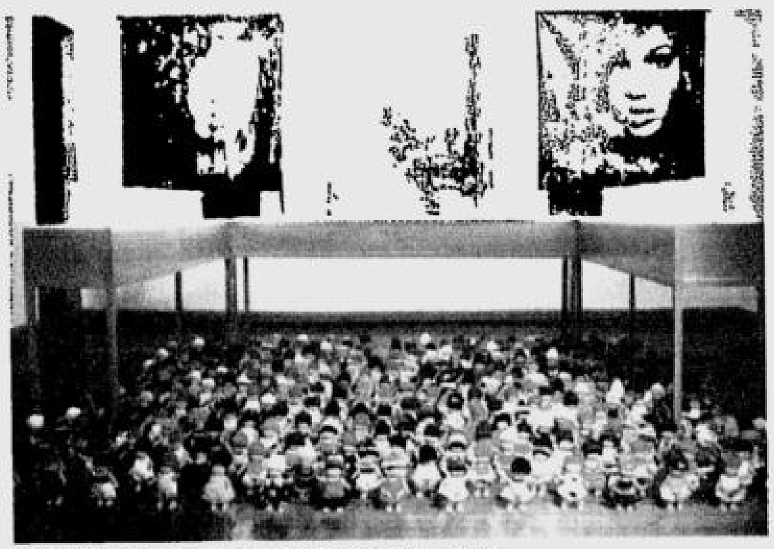
Virtually taking off from a floor-splattered array of plastic dolls, glass jars brimming with heart organs of swine, and acting like a shaman with his bubble-making machine, Ruiz pitted the polarities of the contemporary world as he floated off his bubbles into the nothingness of space. Calling his performance "Lifeguard," Ruiz reveled in the primal sensation that must pass through his lips, reminding everyone present of the sensual connection between the eternal and the ephemeral, indeed, the subject-object correlation.

Ruiz's own suite of paintings reveals body images in random states of love-lust configuration, the human species engaged in varied acts of lovemaking, from the pre-coital to post-coital stages, serving as a modern-day *kama sutra* wherein the human body is steeped in a sensual abyss. The subjects' heads, too, are shorn of hair, which, to the artist, can be an unnecessary distraction since his main focus rests on bodies totally and absolutely purged from all forms of inhibition.

In "First Timer," Ruiz suggests resistance on the female protagonist, with the male aggressively shoving himself, in tight embrace, with the brute force of his hands and palms. In "Wrestle," he has his players on top of each other, their bodies almost entwined, their arms locked in mortal embrace. In "Done," we see the face of the female partner wearily aloft on the male's shoulders, suggesting the look of post-orgasmic bliss.

Although Ruiz takes delight in his flagrant corporeal display, there are pieces that allude to the less tangible element in the sexual encounter.


"A CRY in the Wild" by Henri Cainglet


"ICONS," installation art by Ronaldo Ruiz

RUIZ with his paintings

Ronaldo Ruiz is lustful, Henri Cainglet is ecology-ful

In "Magic," we have a *menage a trois*, with the one in the middle obviously the elemental force that ignites this frenzied coupling. Then, in a more surreal note, Ruiz shows a flesh-and-blood female holding aloft the mask of his partner, resembling a caveman with his prize booty. In "Aw, Ouch," the allusion is clearly that of bestiality, since we see a woman being done with from behind by a half-dog-half-man partner.

It is, for all intents and purposes, a show that can shock, intimidate and even scandalize the prudes in our midst. But, given the artist's track record, it is precisely the kind of exhibition that revels in the liberated spirit of modern-day sexuality.

In an increasingly artificial world, the dividing line between love and lust has seemed to have vanished, their hairline distinction going, going, if not gone.

What's perhaps missing from the show—and from either-or judgments—is the recognition that certain truths about love and lust will remain. But, for the meantime, everyone is admonished to enjoy the show—while it lasts.

Cainglet's deer

The subject of Henri Cainglet's exhibit is an animal now in grave danger of extinction: the Philippine mountain deer. As a worthy follow-through to his previous show where he called attention to another supremely lithe animal—the snake—the mountain deer has become a symbol and hope of our fast-dwindling virgin forest and the vanishing wildlife that inhabits it.

The exhibit, "A Cry in the Wild: Ode to the Vanishing Philippine Deer" (Big & Small Art Co., until May 31), delineates the artist's longtime fascination with organic materials— from stones and driftwood to antlers—that are found right in his place of work, in the fastnesses of Infanta, Quezon, where he has maintained a studio located by the sea jutting out to a panoramic view of the Pacific Ocean.

These works in mixed media, ranging from painting and installation to sculpture in wood, revel in the artist's iconoclastic treatment of material, defying age-old conventions of a particular medium.

Cainglet is, visibly, overfond of filling up his canvases with colors, forms and sundry details—not to mention the mesmerizing suite of iconographic touches that form part of his artmaking.

In this show, Cainglet posits timely questions on the rape of our wildlife. Though couched in festive tones, the pervading mood is elegiac, a death-knell for a vanishing species of the wildlife, a victim of human greed.

This show is a dire warning of the impending tragedy now slowly unfolding, given our dismal track record in both the ecological and cultural arenas.

For comments e-mail the author at gdormiendo @yahoo.com.

Aquarellists at Heart Center, Mendez at West, 'Flowers of May' at Shangri-La Plaza

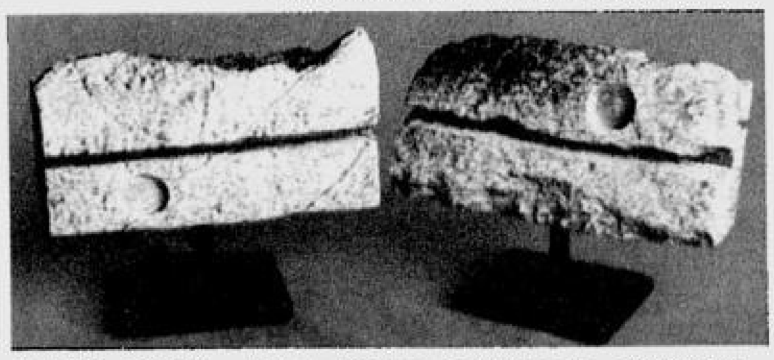
VISUAL ARTS

PHOTOGRAPH by Israeli Alex Levac at Chef's Avenue of Festival Mall

THE AQUARELLISTS, a group of artists whose main objective is to pursue and promote the use of watercolor, opens today its first exhibit this year, "Kulay Mula sa Puso", at the lobby of the Philippine Heart Center, East Avenue, Quezon City. The exhibit runs until June 8. It features vibrant paintings of lush landscapes, breathtaking seascapes, fresh flowers, festive food, fascinating figures. Participating artists include Cesar del Mundo, Ernie Patricio, Nik Masangcay Jr., Domeng Labordo, Bert Duldulao, Bong Gojar, Erwin Sabio, Vic Bachoco, Bong Sunga, Gabriel "Gab" Luis, Andy "Abu" Urag, Irene Sumang, Babes Molata, Rose "Naning" Gavin, Raquel Faustinorio, Alona Galeria and Cora Tumang. New members include Romeo Vicencio, Alon de Guzman, Robert Deniega and Hazel Peña.

MENDEZ AT WEST GALLERY. Joel Mendez presents "Circular Motion" at the West Gallery, Art Walk, 4/L, SM Megamall A, Mandaluyong City, on May 30-June 11. The exhibit features works in mixed media that look into how far people would go "to change" the way they see the world and how the world sees them. Call 634-1284.

GROUP EXHIBIT. Cris Cruz leads the Saturday Group of Artists' exhibit of floral paintings, "Flowers in May," at the 3/L Shangri-La Plaza Mall. Participating artists Jessie Alfonso, Remy Boquiren, Jose Dinglasan, Omar Guerrero, Merci Melchor, Tessie Pecana, Magoo Valencia, Frank Verano, Inna Vitasa, Larry Lim, Julius Limpe and James Ong Lepho present an array of vibrant blooms and foliage, capturing the brilliant colors of fiestas, Flores de Mayo and summer. The show is part of the Saturday Group's series of monthly shows in cooperation with the Shangri-La Plaza and the Crucible Gallery.


"ARAW at Gabi" sculpture by Honrado Fernandez, at Intercon

ARTIST Paul Escobañas, with his guests of honor—Andrew Nocon of the Laguna tourism office and Betty Malabanan of Nippon Life Insurance Co., with friend Grace Peña and Milagros Lane, manager of Galeria de las Islas, at the formal opening of "Balik Tanaw," his 10th one-man exhibit. On exhibit/sale are 32 paintings of centuries-old churches and colonial houses in Laguna, Ilocos Sur, and his hometown Lukban in Quezon. The exhibit is open until June 6, at Galeria de las Islas, 3/F Silahis Center, 744 Gen. Luna St., Intramuros, Manila. Call 527-2113.

DE LOS SANTOS AT CRUCIBLE GALLERY. The latest works of abstract artist Juancho "Choel" de los Santos are presented at the Crucible Gallery, Artwalk, 4/F, SM Megamall Building A, Mandaluyong City, until June 9. The 14 works in black and white represent De los Santos' latest metamorphosis as an artist. Call 635-6061.

THE EMBASSY OF ISRAEL presents a rare collection of black and white photographs showcasing a unique angle in Israel's culture—"modern daily life." Capturing singular events that may never again be seen, Israeli photographer Alex Levac combines both documentary and impressionism to produce a collection that shows profoundness even in daily events.

The photo exhibit "Our Country," is open June 1-13 at the Chef's Avenue of the Festival Mall, Alabang, Muntinlupa; June 14-28 at the lobby of the Plaridel Hall, University of the Philippines; and July 2-Aug. 26 at the Metropolitan Museum of Manila.

GROUP EXHIBIT AT INTERCON. The Art Café of Hotel Inter-Continental Manila presents "Gemini," featuring the works of various artists. Each piece is a dissection of integrated concepts whether through form, color or texture. A few of the forces represented in the works are light/dark, yin/yang, good/evil, freedom/bondage. Participating artists include Conrado Fernandez, Eugene Jarque, Lindsey Lee, Gerry Leonardo, Pablo Mahinay, Toushin Maruyama, Hilde Orye, Lynyrd Paras, Jon Pettyjohn, Tessy Pettyjohn, Sandra Torrijos, Clairelynn Uy and Christina Valdezco. The exhibit runs until June 9.

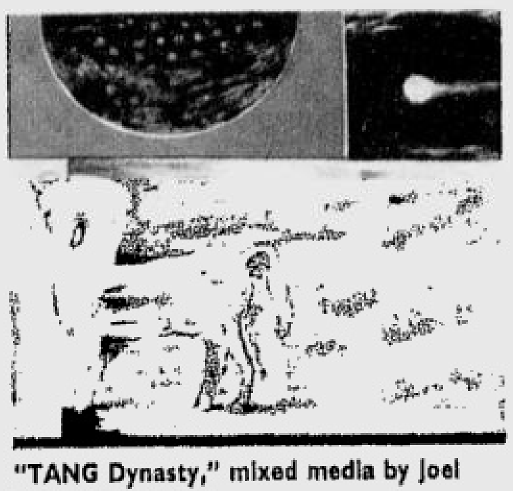
KIDDIE ART. "Snack 2002 on Exhibit" brings together pottery items, photographs, drawings, and tie-dyed scarves on June 1-7 at the Museo Pambata, Roxas Boulevard, Manila. The artworks on display are made by participants in the five-day Snack 2002 (Summer Nature and Arts Camp for Kids), a live-in camp at the Taal Lake Yacht Club this summer. Call 721-0801.

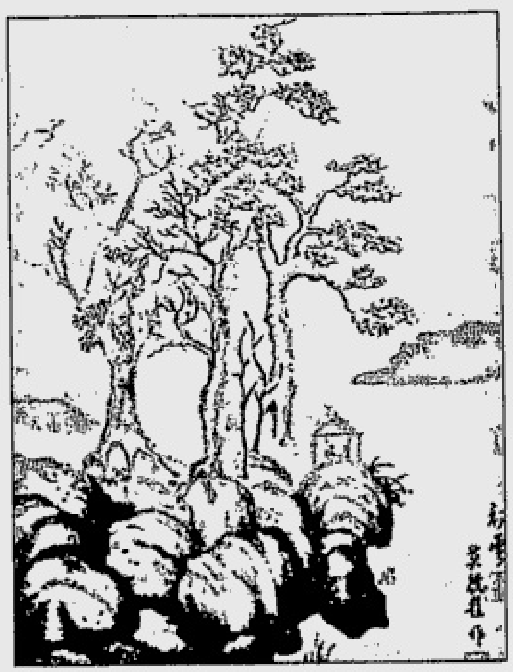
WORKSHOP. The Filipinas Heritage Library will host Travel Writing Workshop, 6-8:30 p.m., June 5, 13, 19 and 26. Traveler and writer Kristine D. Fonacier will facilitate the workshop, which will deal with travel writing, travel and writing. Participants will learn the basics like form, finding and developing the story, the kinds of travel writings, and look at the works of such writers as Pico Iyer, Bruce Chatwin, Tim Cahill and Bill Bryson.

Fonacier will also discuss traveling itself: the preparations needed, research to be done beforehand, and how to get the story published. Workshop fee is P2,500, inclusive of materials and certificates.

WORKSHOP. Maximilane Mainka is conducting a film editing workshop at the University of the Philippines Film Center until May 31. On June 3, she will hand over to the center, her donation of 16/35-mm Steenbeck editing table for use in the Film Education and Training Program. A 7 p.m. screening of "Cobra Vercee" follows the ceremony. The donation was made possible with the help of German cinematographer Jong Schmidt-Reitwein, the Goethe Institut, and Siemens. From June 3 to 7, Mainka will conduct a seminar, with film showings open to the public. Films to be screened are "Ballad of the Little Soldier" and "Gasherbrum," both directed by Werner Herzog. Mainka will also show her documentary film "Schaustellerlady," a portrait of an owner of a roller coaster, and "Unnoticed Reality," a portrait of the famous thinker, zoologist, biologist and philosopher Jakob von Uexkull from Estonia. Schedule of screenings will be announced later. The workshop is invitational while the seminar and screenings are open to the public. Call the UP Film Center at 926-3640.

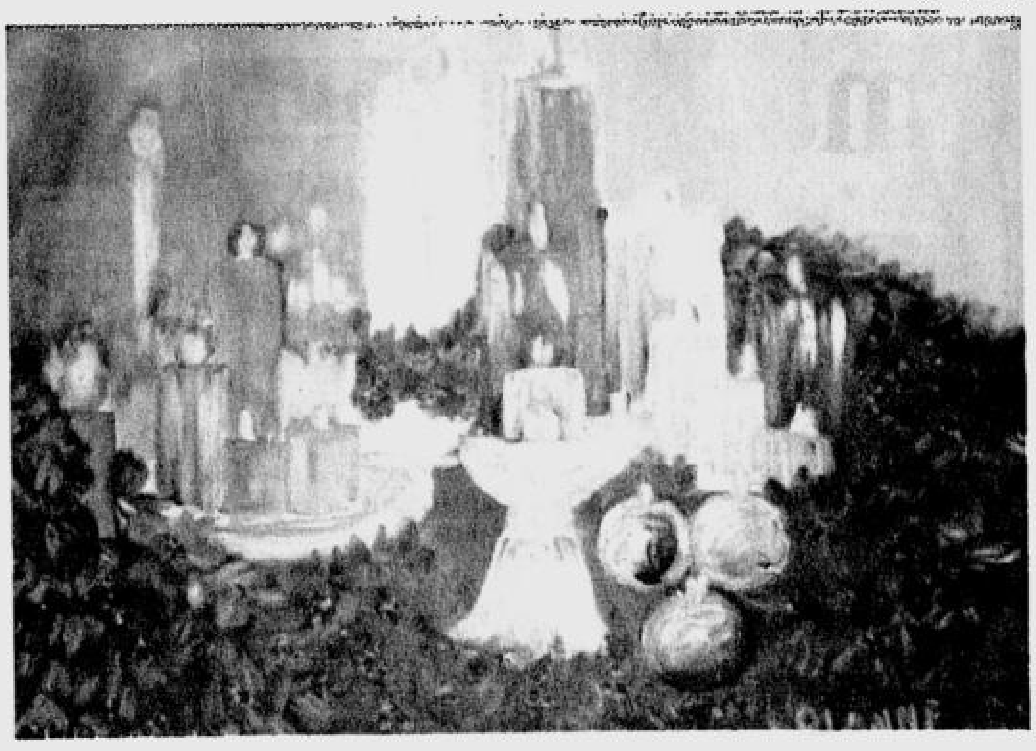
MUSEO PAMBATA EXHIBITS WORKS OF YOUNG WORKSHOP GRADUATES
NINETEEN aspiring artists who participated in this year's Museo Pambata Art's Cool Summer Workshop received their certificates of participation when the workshop closed at the Museo's Karapatan Hall yesterday. Their works will be on exhibit at the Global Village Room on May 28 to 31. Shown in photo are: (first row, from left) Jun Asley Marinas, Eleazar Glenn Bellen, John Nikko Dimazana, Jose Enrico Santiago, Zoe Angelica Sy and Claudine Cu; and (second row) Lorraine Cotchangco, Serina Mara Alonzo, Veronica Dee, Francine Wong and Gordon Philip Bellen. Standing are Karlo Michael Bellen, art facilitator Toto Sodusta, and Reginald Lagarile.


"TANG Dynasty," mixed media by Joel Mendez, at West



Sri Lankan presents inspiring collection

GALLERY 139 at the Art Space, 3/L Glorietta, Ayala Center, Makati, presents the first one-woman show of Sri-Lanka-born painter Indra Thurai. The exhibit, "Reflections of Peace," features an inspiring collection of Chinese watercolors. Open until June 5, it includes an impressive rendition of flowers, birds and sceneries that are both real and imagined. The daughter of a United Nations diplomat and former financial analyst, Thurai discovered her artistic bent when she studied Chinese painting for three years under renowned Korean watercolorist Homoon Youn. She has exhibited her works in Indonesia and Manila, and has supplied two galleries in the United States with her works. Thurai also conducts Chinese-brushpainting classes at home.



CHRISTMAS candles

The artist drops her brush and paint to watch ‘Powerpuff Girls’

PIANNE Sinfuego paints a Kitty portrait at the Aloha Kitty launch.

Mom, look at what I drew for you

By Cathy Babao Guballa
Photos by Mike Alquinto

SHE idolizes Van Gogh and considers Science her favorite subject. One day she hopes to become a chemist, but for now she unwinds by watching the “Powerpuff Girls”—that is, after she has created her latest work of art.

Pianne Sinfuego, all of 7 years old and brimming with talent, creates lovely, colorful canvases bursting with vibrant colors as only a child can do.

The gift to paint was first discovered by mother Pinky a year ago when Pianne, then 6 years old, came home after playing at her best friend Tiffy’s house.

“She brought home this huge canvas with a colorful painting of a vase with flowers. I initially thought she had taken it from Tiffy’s home,” Pinky recalls.

Pinky soon realized that Pianne had sat down with her friend that afternoon for an informal painting lesson with art teacher Amy Allapitan.

Allapitan says that she does not teach the children formally but encourages them to express themselves through art. Pianne, she says, seems to have a natural talent for painting. “We started with pastels but now she does oils. Whatever her mood is, it comes out in the painting,” she says.

Since then, Allapitan has been a fixture at the Sinfuego home, and Pianne takes lessons with her for three hours every Saturday.

Children have the ability to express their innermost joys and fears through two mediums: play and art. When you want to peek into a child’s heart, ask her to do two things—imaginary play, paint or draw. When Pianne is happy and inspired, the colors burst forth, leaping at you from the canvas with child-ike wonder and glee. However, when she is not in the mood, the colors she uses are dark and somber, the figures tranquil and melancholy. A child’s heart does not lie and her paintings manifest these very clearly.

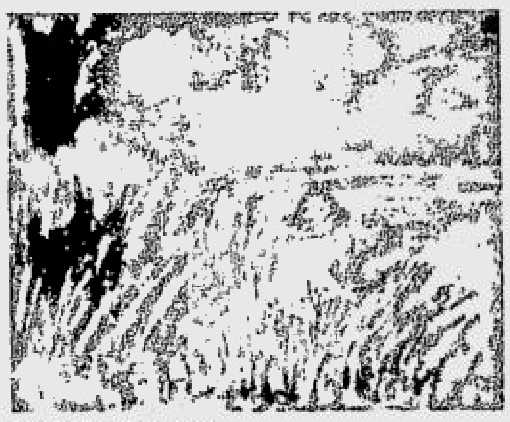
On display

Her unique gift for art is now on display at Bistro Le Soufflé in Ortigas. Bistro owner Jessie Sincioco praises Pianne’s paintings; it was through her that Gift Gate mother hen Virgie Ramos came to know of Pianne’s talent. Thus, at the recent launch of Aloha Kitty, Ramos invited Pianne to paint a canvas of Hello Kitty.

During the launch, Pianne outdid herself by creating not only one but three lively and colorful paintings of the beloved Sanrio character, much to the delight of Ramos and the crowd.

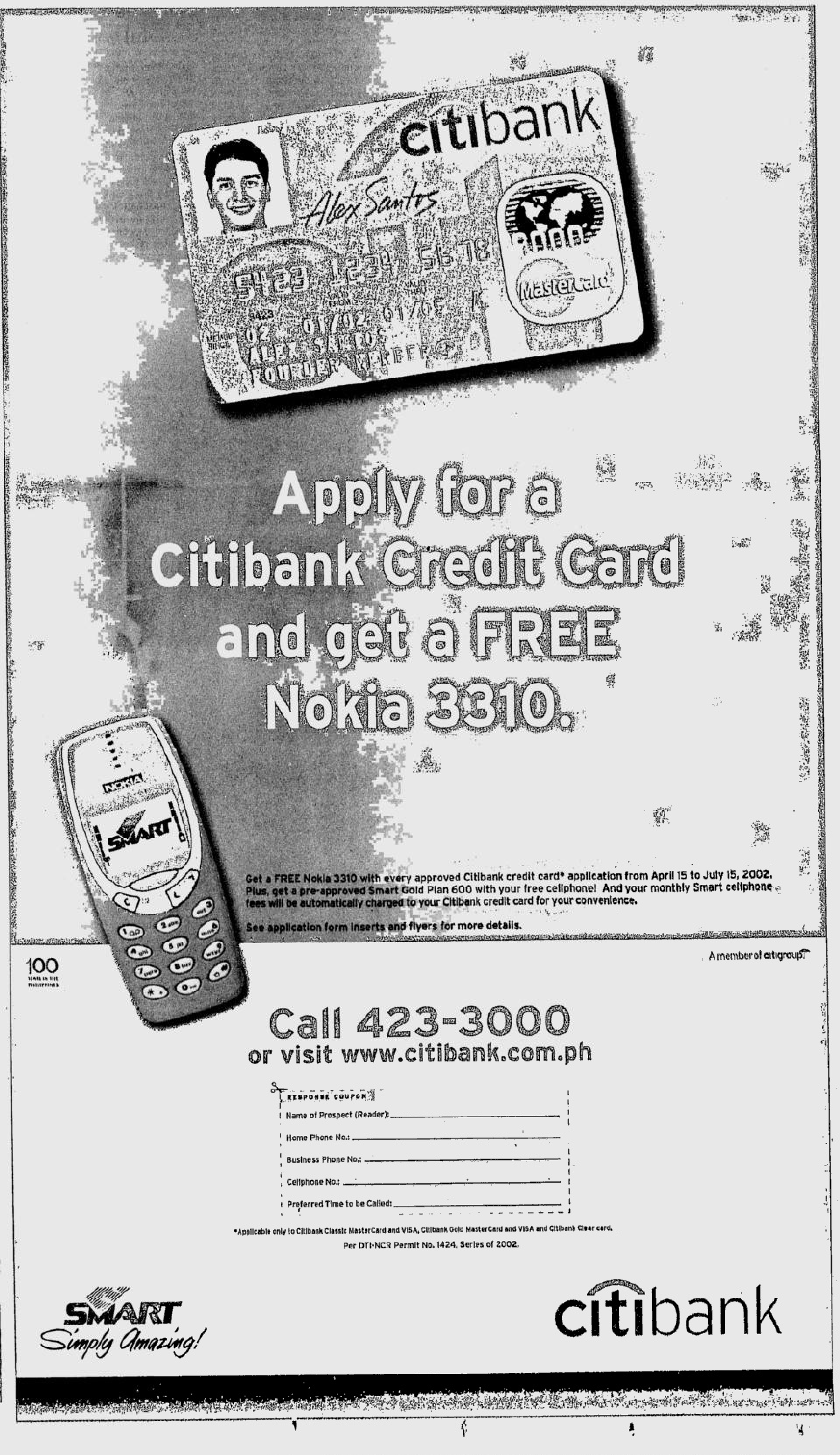
In addition to the exhibit, Pianne’s paintings also hang in the lobby of the upscale

MOM/ p.E4



FARMER and field

AMY Allapitan, Pinky Sinfuego and Pianne



Apply for a Citibank Credit Card and get a FREE Nokia 3310.

Get a FREE Nokia 3310 with every approved Citibank credit card* application from April 15 to July 15, 2002. Plus, get a pre-approved Smart Gold Plan 600 with your free cellphone! And your monthly Smart cellphone fees will be automatically charged to your Citibank credit card for your convenience.

See application form inserts and flyers for more details.

A member of citigroup

Call 423-3000
or visit www.citibank.com.ph

RESPONSE COUPON
Name of Prospect (Reader): ____________
Home Phone No.: ____________
Business Phone No.: ____________
Cellphone No.: ____________
Preferred Time to be Called: ____________

*Applicable only to Citibank Classic MasterCard and VISA, Citibank Gold MasterCard and VISA and Citibank Clear card.

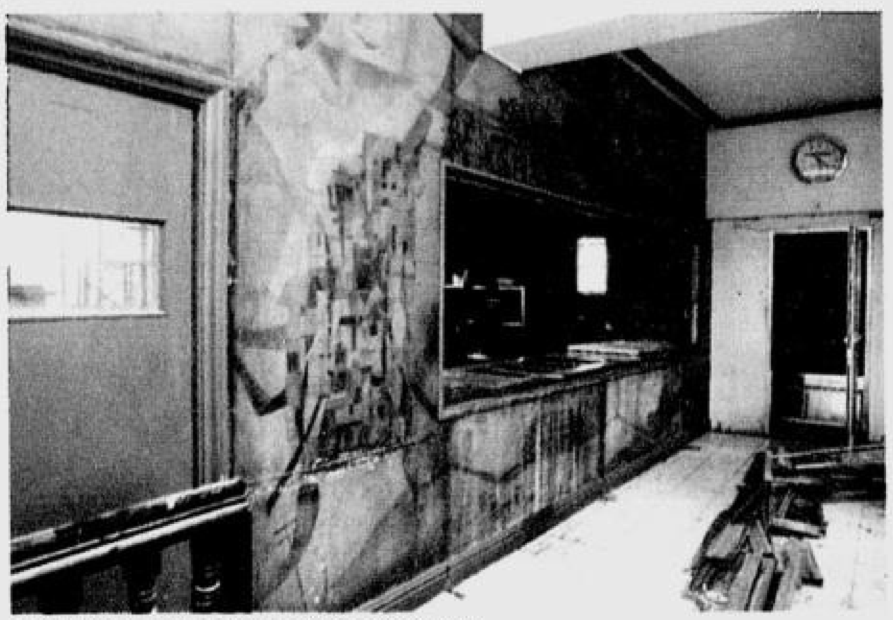
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1424, Series of 2002.

SMART Simply Amazing!

citibank

The decay of a Manansala

From page E1



A MIGHTY artwork in a hostile environment

somebody did some cutting for the holes in the wall.

"I would think so," he says. "You'll notice it has an irregular shape, and if you look at it, it's very, very awkward. If you were Manansala, would you draw that? Even if you're an eccentric artist..."

Mounted on the second door is Albert Garcia's iconic photograph of the Pinatubo eruption. On the first door, right below the formidable image of Amang Rodriguez, is a 1980 Sabalbaro watercolor portrait of the young Manansala, with notes on the mural, its provenance and restoration.

Major problem

In 1980, the master was commissioned by The Manila Chronicle to restore his handiwork. He was assisted by a crew composed of Ang Kiukok, Malang, Romulo Olazo, Edgar Doctor, Ephraim Samson, Gig de Pio, Suzanno Gonzales Jr., Cris Cruz. (Most of these restorers later turned master artists themselves, with one becoming National Artist.)

In1983, fire from faulty electrical wiring broke out at the building's northside. The conflagration gutted several air-conditioning units donated by then NPC president Teodoro Valencia, and the soot and smoke discolored the mural. Manansala had died in August 1981, and a follow-up restoration never occurred.

Restoration experts have assessed the artwork and determined that the major conservation problem is surface damage. They have observed the following alterations:

- Abrasion and losses, mostly cutting across the mural from the bottom;
- Darkening or dulling of the entire surface due to dirt, grime, soot and other pollutants from the kitchen and the air outside;
- Water damage, which has washed off the image beneath the kitchen window, due to drippings from the window arm where drinks and foodstuff are placed for waiters to take to customers;
- Flaking, warping and craquelures.

Only solution

The experts have found the *lawanit* support basically intact, with no visible indication of major wood damage except for nail holes and marks left by detachment from frame. It has to be checked from behind, though, for some nonvisible damage such as insect infestation or microbial attack.

The experts urgently recommend that the artwork be cleaned mechanically and chemically, its surface and support stabilized, its losses and flaked-off paint consolidated. Missing portions should be retouched, the erased image reconstructed. After cleaning and stabilizing the mural, a protective coating must be applied on its surface.

"Restoration budget can easily run to P2 million," says Logarta. "I was told it has to be done in either New York or Singapore."

More importantly, the restorers must be schooled in or familiar with the technique of Manansala. Ang Kiukok and Malang were reportedly approached but had begged off.

And this is where the public sale of the artwork enters.

"I would be happy if we get P10 million for it," says Logarta. "Since it's just deteriorating in this place, anyway, and we don't have the budget for its restoration, the only solution is disposing it or selling it to an acceptable entity or institution to be determined by the Lopez Museum. The bottom line is to find an entity that will restore and preserve this heritage."

Barter arrangement

And the NPC badly needs the money.

It owes its employees back wages amounting to P9.44 million. It has outstanding debts of P3.35 million for electricity, P2 million for water, P1.2 million for the Social Security System, P800,000 for telephone. Or a whooping total of about P17 million.

The idea of putting the Manansala on the auction block came about when the employees' union threatened to possess and sell it to pay off their back wages. It is on top of the list of NPC properties that have to be auctioned off, including the billiard table, the Weinstein piano, the videoke set.

Logarta has been working on the auction of the artwork since October, but now he has some alternative proposals. He has offered the Lopez family a sort of barter arrangement.

In exchange for the mural, he is asking for the settling of accounts with Meralco and Maynilad Water Services (both owned by the Lopezes), the rehabilitation of the NPC library, a six-bed hospital within the building, a scholarship fund maybe, plus an Internet café for newspersons. Meanwhile, the employees will be paid off by other means, such as proceeds from fund-raising.

Wherever it may go, whether it will stay in the NPC Building or be taken piece by piece to the other bank of the Pasig, our main concern is the complete rehabilitation of the Manansala—now. We do not deserve it, if we allow this national treasure to be taken away from our inheritance.

"VAN Gogh is my favorite," says the 7-year-old artist.

Mom, look at what I drew for you

From page E1

Essensa Towers in Fort Bonifacio. According to mother Pinky, the young girl is slated to have an art exhibit at the Harvard Business School in March 2003.

Pianne likes to paint flowers and fish; blue, green, red and yellow are her favorite colors.

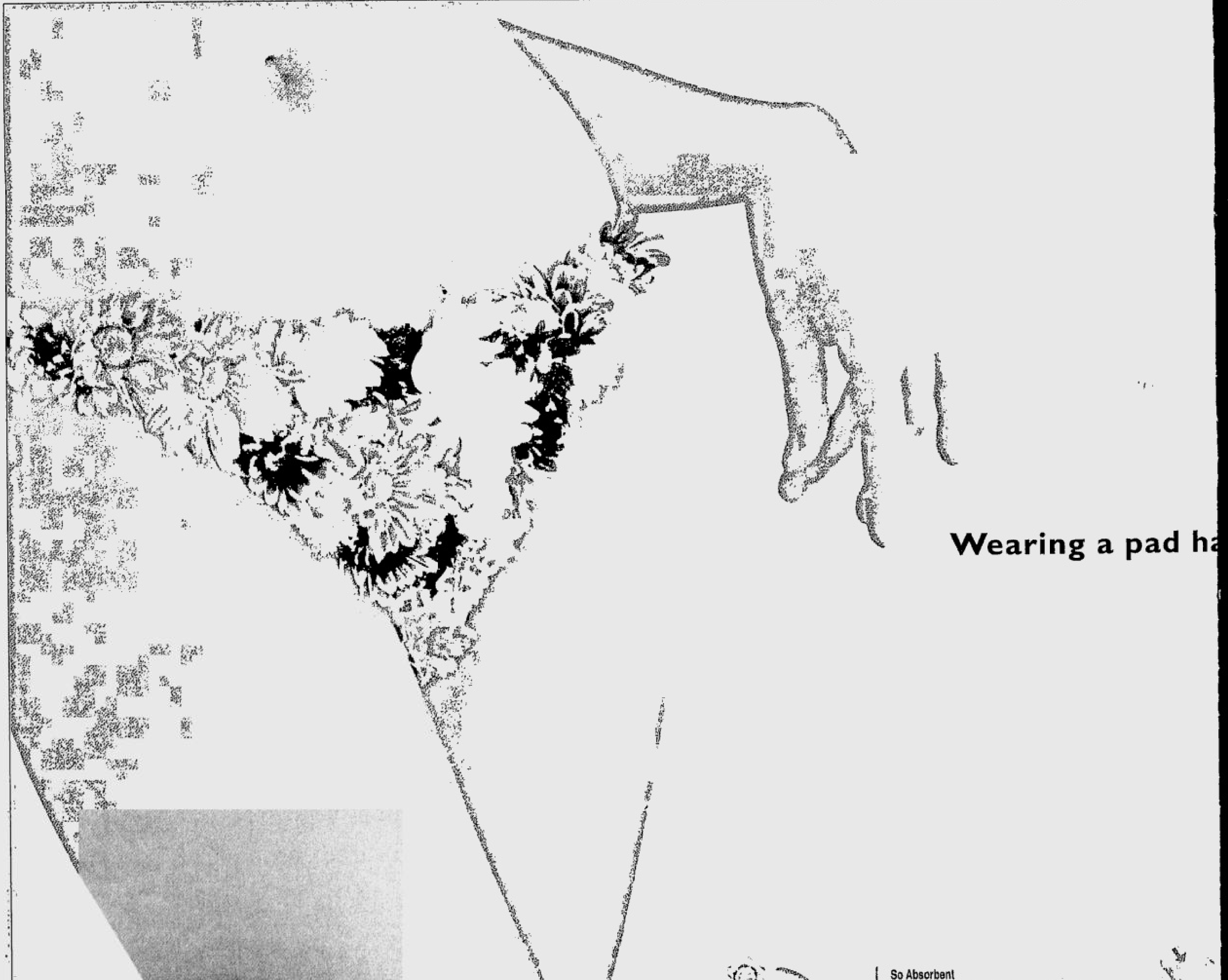
The talent, her mother says, is not inherited. "The only thing I can paint is my face," she laughs.

Dad Kenneth is also an industrial chemist by training and profession.

The young girl can finish a painting that measures 18" x 20" under two hours, but after that she's quite exhausted.

After painting for an hour and answering questions for the interview, in typical childlike fashion, she keeps her tools—brushes and oils—and hies off to her room to watch her favorite cartoon. Van Gogh momentarily takes a backseat to the blue-colored Powerpuff who adores bunnies and saves the day.

E-mail the author at cbguballa@inquirer.com.ph


Wearing a pad ha
So Absorbent
Thanks to the Magic Gel inside the pad and its round channel.

Say hello to the freshest feeling ever!

To many women, having their period is one of the most uncomfortable feelings on earth. "Do I have a stain?" "Why do I feel so wet?" "Can my napkin absorb the heavy flow?" "Gosh, can they see the napkin mark from my back?" "Do I smell?" Anyone who relates to this feeling can add to the list. And although having a period is a regular female thing, it still makes a lot of women wonder when they can finally feel really fresh. So they can relax and feel confident even wher

Well, here's good news for w
feel fresh during their per
Yes, wear flowers.

This is actually the kind of feeling y
new **Sofresh Feminine Napkins**
napkins that gives you the feeling o

ARTIST-RUN SPACES

Surrounded by Water to reopen

By Wire Rommel G. Tuazon
Contributor

WHEN I started running Surrounded by Water in 1998, I knew it would never be a commercial venture. There were no market forces in Angono at the time.

We had thought of building an audience in spite of the gallery's location. Putting up the gallery was also one way of engaging and disseminating ideas.

The growth of alternative spaces in the Philippines plays a key role in redefining the nature of contemporary art and the development of alternative attitude toward exhibition spaces.

In a country wherein art sponsorship is extremely underdeveloped, the politics of state funding has resulted in astounding artistic initiatives. The past decades have seen the emergence of artist-run spaces—from Shop 6 of the 1970s to Pinaglabanan Gallery and Art Lab of the 1980s. In the '90s, artist-run spaces included Junk Shop, Third Space, Big Sky Mind and Green Papaya Art Projects.

Over the same period, the more traditional exhibiting procedures of the commercial and public galleries have continued. What the independent spaces have offered, however, is more than an alternative exhibiting system.

It has been far more decisive for the strategic conquest of non-institutional space through art; evolving from the confines of institutionalized power structures to exhibitions that attempt to break down boundaries and restrictions.

Understandably, the projects and exhibitions were difficult to sustain. People who run artists' spaces have to make sacrifices. They sacrifice time, money and their own work.

The 15 or so artists involved in Surrounded by Water were part of a Do-It-Yourself (DIY) generation. They sought to support their art, practice independently and, in a number of ways, apply short-term survival strategies for mounting projects.

Working with such limited resources often at the grass roots, they created fresh and innovative approaches to making and presenting their art. The opportunity to expand and present these ideas reflected the collective identity of Surrounded by Water.

Surrounded became an exploratory endeavor for emerging, under-exhibited artists. It was originally located in Angono, Rizal, along the Manila East Road Highway—an hour and a half drive away from Metro Manila.

SBW also stands for DIY (Do-It-Yourself).

The gallery held a mix bag of programs—from exhibits to film showings, poetry readings, performances and conventions.

Surrounded closed in June 2001. The manpower involved in running the space was completely voluntary; no small sacrifice for the members who were themselves practicing artists. But it made its statement.

Artist-run spaces have given greater opportunities for a broader cross-section of artists. They have also provided a platform for discussion and facilitated programs and events that encourage people to engage in collaborative projects.

These initiatives have addressed the issue of what kind of art gets exposed, and helped determine the nature of contemporary art in the country.

The definition of artist-run space, which may be considered as the middle ground between commercial galleries and museums, tends to also be problematic. Structures obviously change over time.

The next year or two will be very crucial to the direction of artists' spaces. The practice, production and propagation of art will increasingly require an ever-widening base of both institutional support and active public involvement of the public.

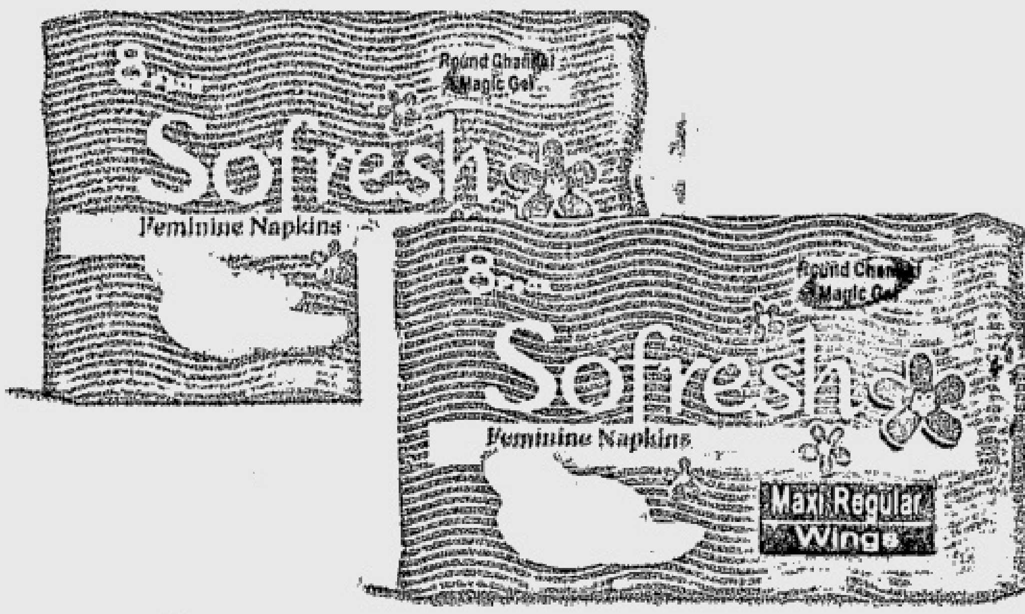
Taking all these into account, the three years of Surrounded by Water fostered a sense of community and home, especially for young, emerging artists.

SBW members Michael Muñoz, Lena Cobangbang, Yasmin Sison (on top of ladder), Geraldine Javier (below ladder), Mariano Ching, Wire Tuazon and Jason Oliveria.

It was a place that featured raw, experimental work, diverse and open in selection. It opened doors for interaction and dialogue and provided representation for both a new breed of artists and their audience in a space where freedom, diversity and the DIY spirit reign.

Surrounded by Water opens its new space on June 1, with "Mainstream," a group show featuring new works by SBW members such as Victor Balanon, Jonathan Ching, Mariano Ching, Lena Cobangbang, Louie Cordero, Christina Dy, Eduardo Enriquez, Nona Garcia, Lyra Abueg Garcellano, Geraldine Javier, Mike Muñoz, Jason Oliveria, Gary Ross Pastrana, Yasmin Sison, Katrina Miranda-Tuazon, Wire Tuazon and Alvin Villaruel. The new address is at 70 18th Ave. in Murphy, Cubao, Quezon City.

as never made me feel so fresh!



So Gentle
The Super-Soft Cover guards against skin chafing. So skin feels fresh!

So Secure
The Enlarged Wings make the pad stay in place. And it fits discreetly well!

Sofresh
Not just fresh, it's so fresh!

they "have".

omen who want to
od. Wear flowers!

u get when you use the
. A new line of sanitary
maximum freshness; it's like wearing soft, fresh flowers in your underwear. Nothing is as comforting and reassuring. This means comfort and peace of mind even during your heaviest days. Thanks to **Sofresh Feminine Napkins.**

Sofresh Feminine Napkins are **So Absorbent** because it has a **Magic Gel** inside the pad plus a **Round Channel** that guards against side leaks. **Sofresh** is also **So Gentle** due to its **Super-Soft Cover** that guards against skin chafing. So skin feels fresh! More important, **Sofresh Feminine Napkins** are **So Secure --- the Enlarged Wings** make the pad stay in place and it fits discreetly well.

As its marketing manager says, "Nothing is more important than making a woman feel good about herself specially during her period. We understand this very well, that's why we are offering Sofresh Feminine Napkins."

With all these superior features, **Sofresh Feminine Napkins** will surely make you feel good and so fresh. So try it now and feel the freshness of flowers in your napkin.

Experience the so fresh feeling now. Choose from either **Sofresh Maxi Long with Wings** or **Sofresh Maxi Regular with Wings.** There are also **Sofresh Panty Liners** in 10's and 20's. Available in all leading supermarkets and department stores nationwide.

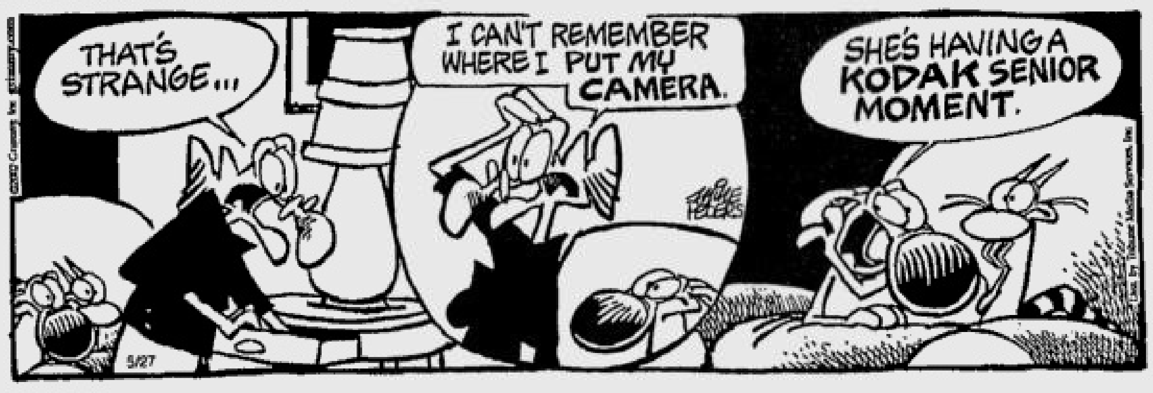
ComicRelief

e-mail feedbackatarts@inquirer.com.ph

MONDAY, MAY 27, 2002

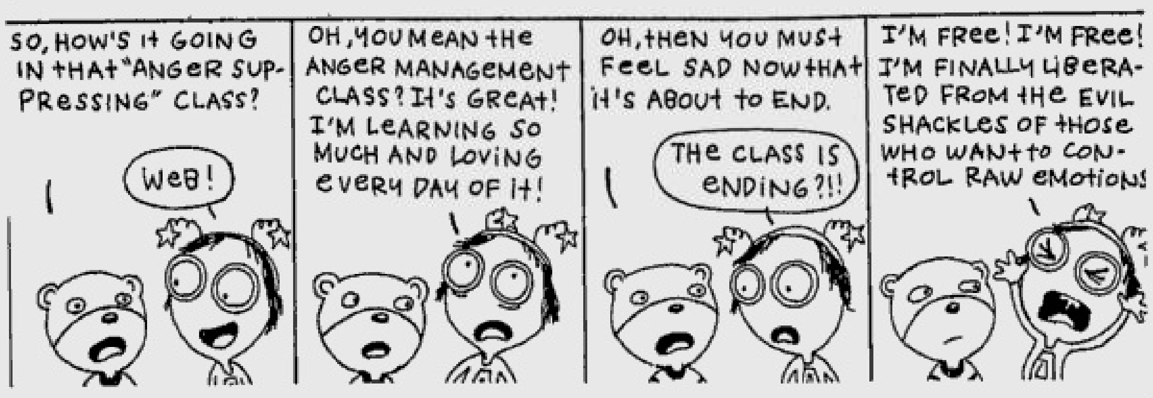
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

BY MIKE PETERS


THAT'S STRANGE...
I CAN'T REMEMBER WHERE I PUT MY CAMERA.
SHE'S HAVING A KODAK SENIOR MOMENT.
5/27

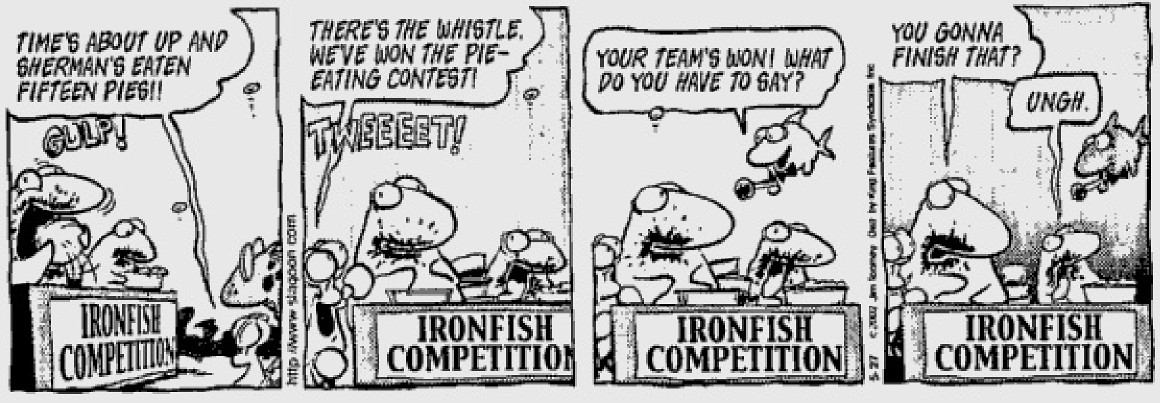
ATOMO AND WEBOY

BY LYRA GARCELLANO


SO, HOW'S IT GOING IN THAT "ANGER SUPPRESSING" CLASS?
WEB!
OH, YOU MEAN THE ANGER MANAGEMENT CLASS? IT'S GREAT! I'M LEARNING SO MUCH AND LOVING EVERY DAY OF IT!
OH, THEN YOU MUST FEEL SAD NOW THAT IT'S ABOUT TO END.
THE CLASS IS ENDING?!!
I'M FREE! I'M FREE! I'M FINALLY LIBERATED FROM THE EVIL SHACKLES OF THOSE WHO WANT TO CONTROL RAW EMOTIONS!

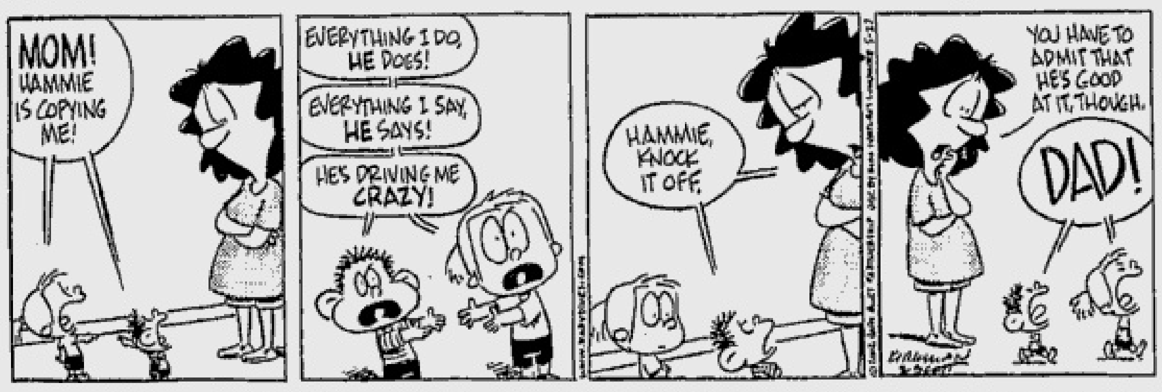
SHERMAN'S LAGOON

BY JIM TOOMEY


TIME'S ABOUT UP AND SHERMAN'S EATEN FIFTEEN PIES!!
GULP!
IRONFISH COMPETITION
THERE'S THE WHISTLE. WE'VE WON THE PIE-EATING CONTEST!
TWEEEET!
YOUR TEAM'S WON! WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO SAY?
YOU GONNA FINISH THAT?
UNGH.
http://www.slagoon.com

BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


MOM! HAMMIE IS COPYING ME!
EVERYTHING I DO, HE DOES!
EVERYTHING I SAY, HE SAYS!
HE'S DRIVING ME CRAZY!
HAMMIE, KNOCK IT OFF.
YOU HAVE TO ADMIT THAT HE'S GOOD AT IT, THOUGH.
DAD!
KIRKMAN & SCOTT

HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Vincent Price, Henry Kissinger, Louis Gossett Jr., Todd Bridges

Happy Birthday: You'll be headstrong, independent and mentally quick this year. You will be generous and affectionate with your friends and family and will welcome anything and anyone that is a little different. You will be lucky when it comes to work, investments or other financial matters this year. Your numbers are 13, 18, 22, 34, 41, 45

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Travel, communicating and reading will lead to all sorts of new ideas. You will expand your awareness and better yourself if you invest in your future direction.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Take a moment to reorganize your home. The little changes you make will help you to be more efficient. Put your cash into a safe long-term investment.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Your ideas to improve yourself and others will pay off. Don't let anyone stand in the way of your future goals. You'll only have yourself to blame if you don't act now.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You can make money today if you put your mind to it. Travel for business will pay off. It's a great day to go for an interview or to send out your resume.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): The more outgoing you are today the further you'll go. If you plan a social event it should turn out well. Your creative touch will be appreciated by others.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Be careful how you deal with the people you are closest to. You will have enough energy and know-how to do things by yourself. It will be easier to take on the bulk of the responsibility yourself than it will be to ask for help.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You should take advantage of any chance to travel that arises. Help a friend solve a dilemma. You'll be a hero.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You can expect to experience some changes in your financial picture. You will not be in the right frame of mind to make hasty decisions. Take some time to re-evaluate your motives and your future direction.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You may be a little emotional today especially if someone you care about is trying to force you to make a decision. Try to keep things in perspective. This could be a make-it or break-it time.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You'll have to read between the lines if you expect to be able to keep on top of what's going on. Keep your intentions to yourself and observe what everyone around you is doing.

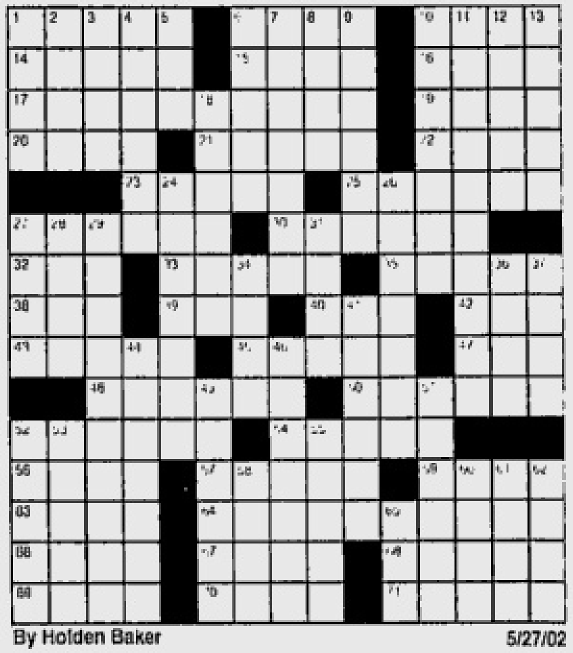
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You need to get out and enjoy interacting with others. Put your time and effort into something you believe in and you will find the outcome to be rewarding and satisfying.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Be careful what you say today. Someone you know through business may twist your words. Be precise and don't leave any room for error. Ask for help if you feel you need it.

Birthday Baby: You will love to debate social and philosophical issues. You will make your mark on the world by following your dreams and believing in yourself. You will always want to be in control and will face any kind of opposition with aggressive force and fair play.

DAILY CROSSWORD

TMSPuzzles@aol.com



By Holden Baker
Greenfield, MA

5/27/02

ACROSS
1 Armored vehicles
6 Hogan and Crenshaw
10 Canyon reply
14 To have in Le Havre
15 __ vera
16 Lateen-rigged sailboat
17 Ultimate cost
19 Fleece
20 Sailor's mop
21 Sen. Kefauver
22 Johnson of "Laugh-In"
23 Dwight's opponent
25 Driving force
27 Avoided
30 Netlike caps
32 Altar words
33 Italian seven
35 Muslim faith
38 Cambridge sch.
39 Writer LeShan
40 Morning hrs.
42 Gershwin or Levin
43 Go in
45 Safin of tennis
47 Mil. base
48 Coveter
50 Drives off
52 Bring down
54 Old-time actress Nita
56 Hawaiian port
57 Kevin of "A Fish Called Wanda"
59 Bind with cord
63 Eastern ruler
64 Strike formation, perhaps
66 Optical device
67 19th-century actress Menken
68 Lowest point
69 Unrestrained
70 Flophouse in London
71 Snares

DOWN
1 Bar bills
2 Swear
3 __ bene
4 Knapsack
5 Letters in theater lobbies
6 Model wood
7 Snob
8 Nary a one
9 Handles
10 Director Blake
11 Broadway group
12 Catcalls of a sort
13 Young raptor
18 Displayed cards, as in pinochle
24 Should get
26 Lifted up
27 Roosevelt coin
28 Ruler of the Aesir
29 What to sign on
31 In the area
34 Bring under control
36 Asian sea
37 Type of production or appeal
41 Actress Matlin
44 Countersign
46 Medical herbs
49 Stamp's partner
51 Porch-roof support
52 Bookcase level
53 One who points a weapon
55 Egyptian crosses
58 Pool on cruise ship
60 Actress Turturro
61 Cut
62 Towel ID
65 Blast letters

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

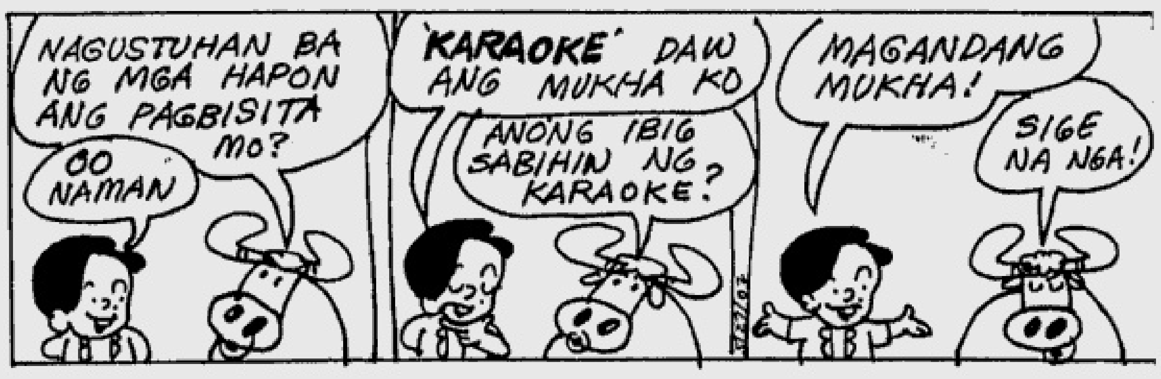
B	A	R	B	S	■	A	R	E	A	■	A	C	D	C
I	S	E	R	E	■	N	A	V	E	■	L	O	R	E
A	E	S	I	R	■	I	T	E	R	A	T	I	O	N
S	A	U	T	E	■	T	H	R	O	W	A	F	I	T
■	■	R	A	N	■	R	E	E	N	L	I	S	T	S
M	A	G	N	A	C	A	R	T	A	■	■	■	■	■
A	G	E	N	D	A	S	■	T	U	R	B	I	N	E
P	U	N	I	E	R	■	■	■	T	E	A	M	E	D
P	E	T	A	R	D	S	■	B	I	R	D	M	A	N
■	■	■	■	■	I	A	M	A	C	A	M	E	R	A
S	T	A	T	I	O	N	E	D	■	D	I	D	■	■
T	A	K	I	N	G	T	E	N	■	I	N	I	G	O
R	E	I	T	E	R	A	T	E	■	A	T	A	R	I
A	G	R	A	■	A	N	E	W	■	T	O	T	A	L
Y	U	A	N	■	M	A	R	S	■	E	N	E	M	Y

(C)2002 Tribune Media Services Inc. All rights reserved

5/27/02

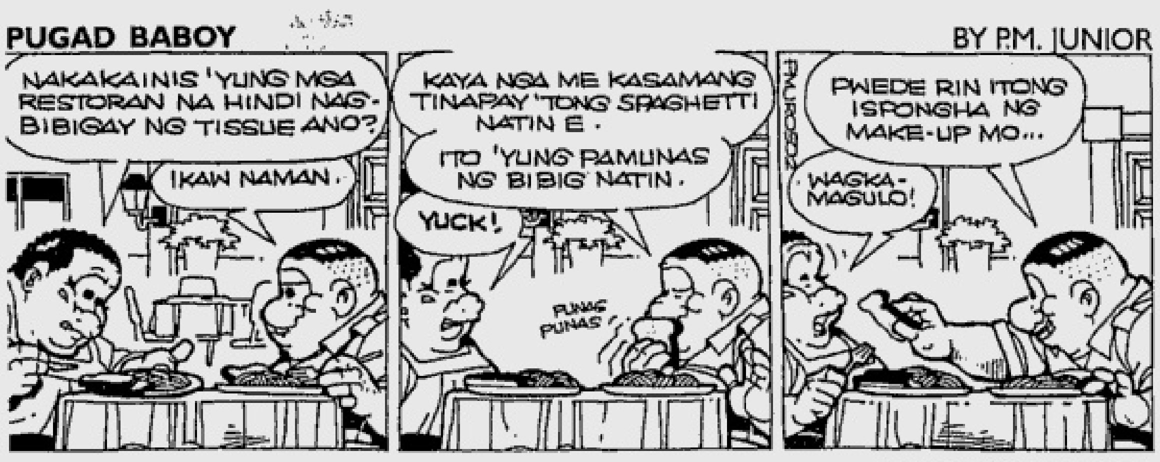
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


NAGUSTUHAN BA NG MGA HAPON ANG PAGBISITA MO?
OO NAMAN
'KARAOKE' DAW ANG MUKHA KO
ANONG IBIG SABIHIN NG KARAOKE?
MAGANDANG MUKHA!
SIGE NA NGA!

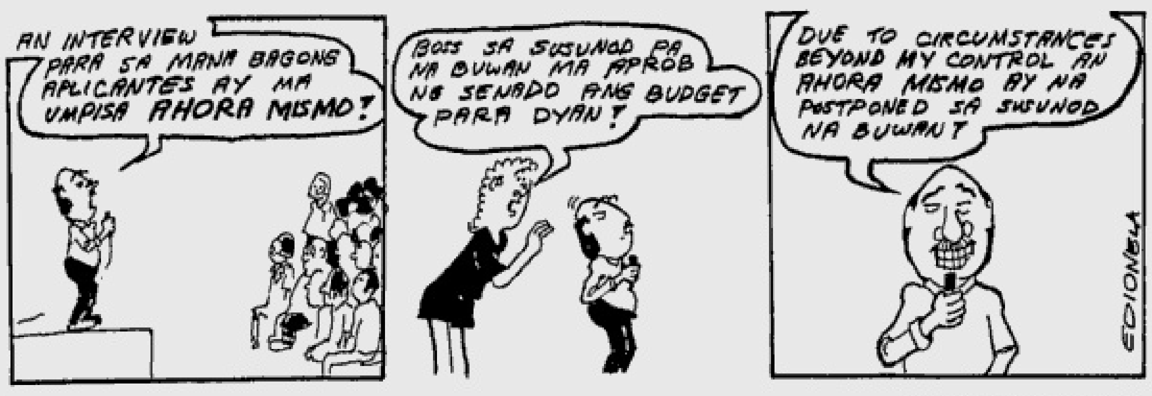
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


NAKAKAINIS 'YUNG MGA RESTORAN NA HINDI NAGBIBIGAY NG TISSUE ANO?
IKAW NAMAN.
KAYA NGA ME KASAMANG TINAPAY 'TONG SPAGHETTI NATIN E.
ITO 'YUNG PAMUNAS NG BIBIG NATIN.
YUCK!
PUNAS PUNAS
PWEDE RIN ITONG ISPONGHA NG MAKE-UP MO...
WAGKA-MAGULO!
PMJR

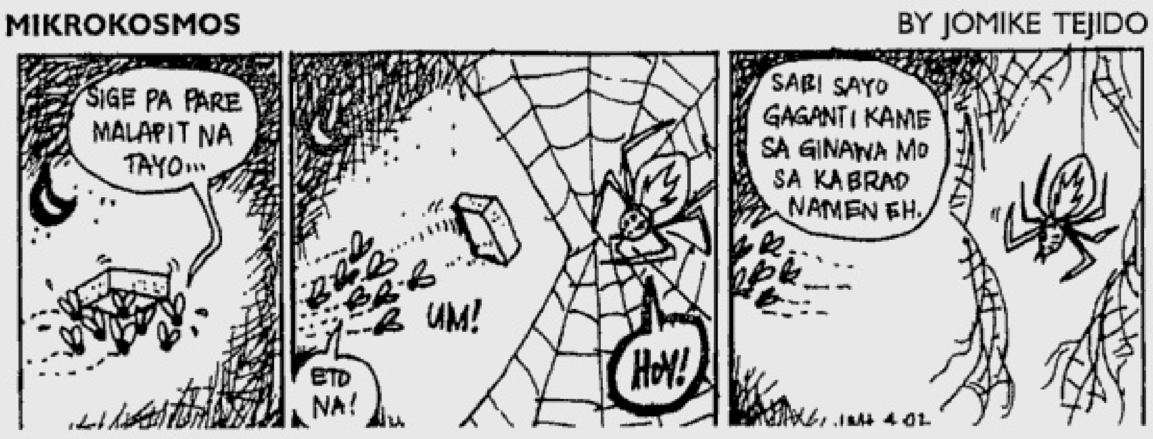
SIMO

BY EDGAR DIONELA


AN INTERVIEW PARA SA MANA BAGONG APLICANTES AY MA UMPISA AHORA MISMO!
BOSS SA SUSUNOD PA NA BUWAN MA APROB NG SENADO ANG BUDGET PARA DYAN!
DUE TO CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND MY CONTROL AN AHORA MISMO AY NA POSTPONED SA SUSUNOD NA BUWAN!
EDIONELA

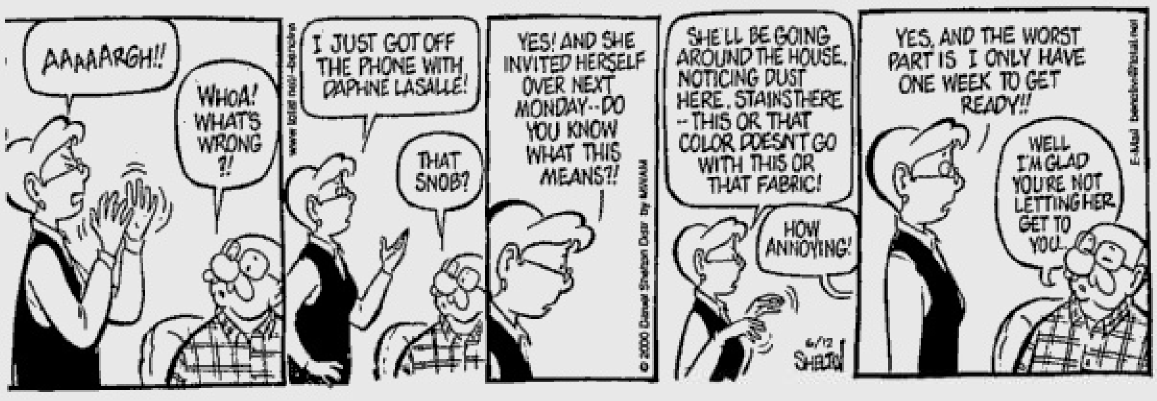
MIKROKOSMOS

BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


SIGE PA PARE MALAPIT NA TAYO...
ETO NA!
UM!
HOY!
SABI SAYO GAGANTI KAMI SA GINAWA MO SA KABRAD NAMEN EH.

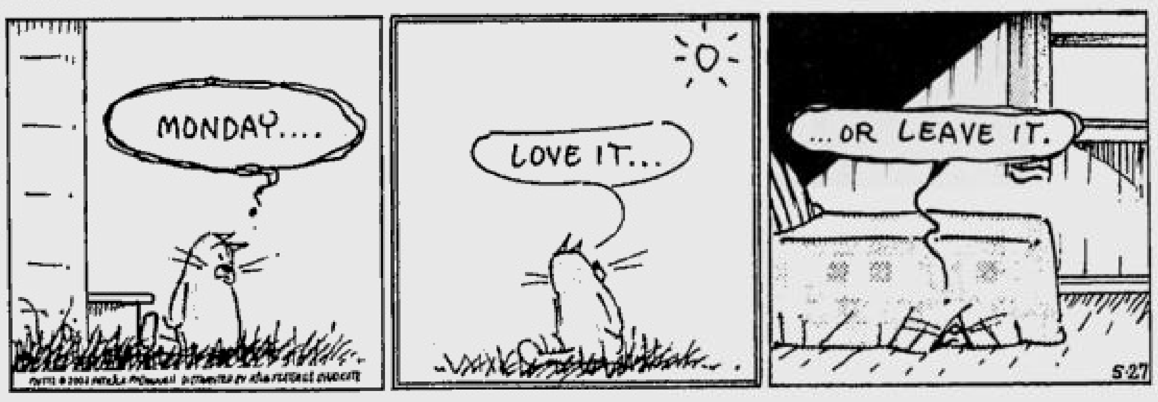
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


AAAAARGH!!
WHOA! WHAT'S WRONG ?!
I JUST GOT OFF THE PHONE WITH DAPHNE LASALLE!
THAT SNOB?
YES! AND SHE INVITED HERSELF OVER NEXT MONDAY--DO YOU KNOW WHAT THIS MEANS?!
SHE'LL BE GOING AROUND THE HOUSE, NOTICING DUST HERE, STAINS THERE -- THIS OR THAT COLOR DOESN'T GO WITH THIS OR THAT FABRIC!
HOW ANNOYING!
YES, AND THE WORST PART IS I ONLY HAVE ONE WEEK TO GET READY!!
WELL I'M GLAD YOU'RE NOT LETTING HER GET TO YOU.
6/12 SHELTON

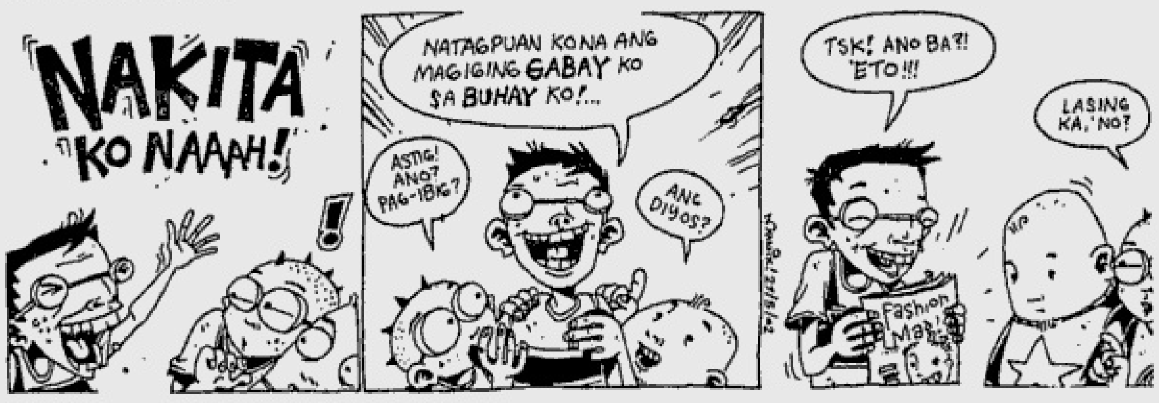
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


MONDAY....
LOVE IT...
...OR LEAVE IT.
5-27

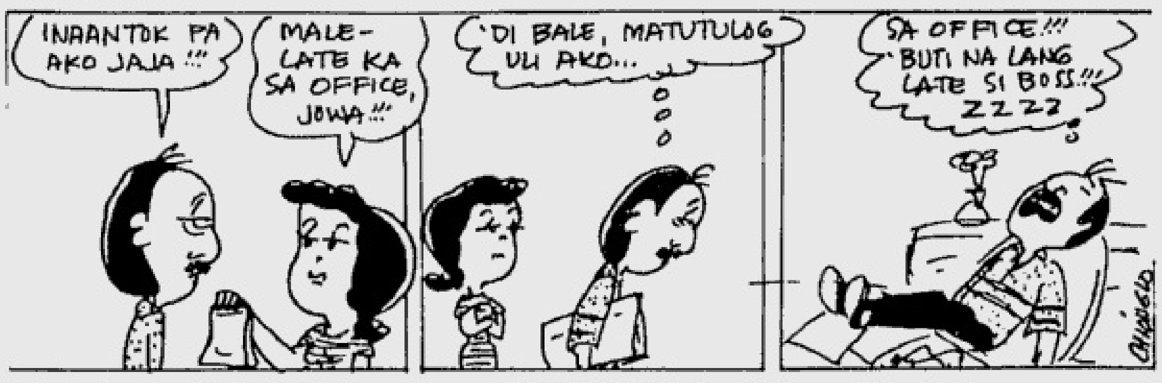
KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA


NAKITA KO NAAAH!
!
NATAGPUAN KO NA ANG MAGIGING GABAY KO SA BUHAY KO!...
ASTIG! ANO? PAG-IBIG?
ANG DIYOS?
TSK! ANO BA?! ETO!!!
LASING KA, 'NO?
Fashion Mag

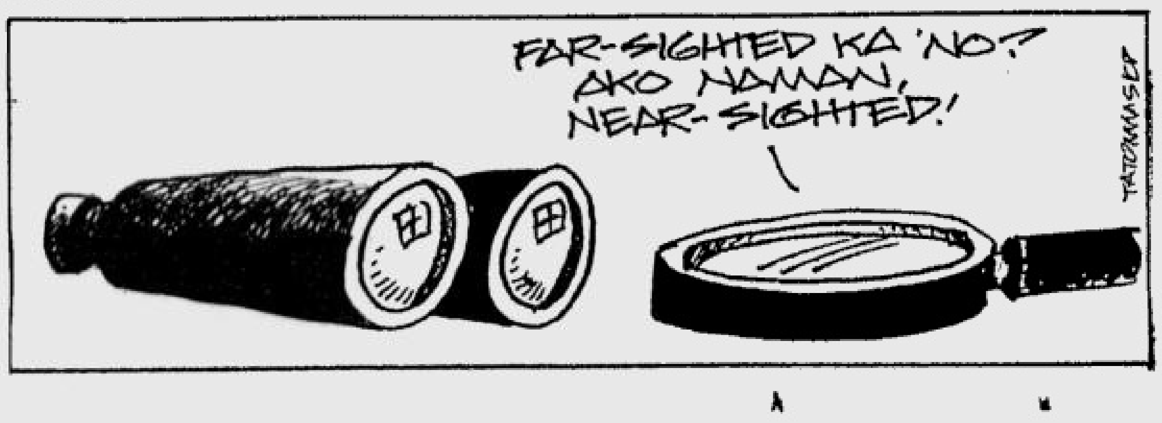
LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


INAANTOK PA AKO JAJA !!!
MALE-LATE KA SA OFFICE, JOWA !!!
'DI BALE, MATUTULOG ULI AKO...
SA OFFICE!!! BUTI NA LANG LATE SI BOSS!!! ZZZZ
CHIONGLO

TULDOK

BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING


FAR-SIGHTED KA 'NO? AKO NAMAN, NEAR-SIGHTED!
TATUMMASKER

Hermes Alegre in Singapore

NOTED painter Hermes Alegre mounts his first major international solo exhibition on June 1-12, at the Jasmine Gallery of Fine Art in the Paragon Mall on Orchard Road.

Titled "Nymphs and Blooms: The Singapore Collection," the show puts together 30 of Alegre's new works. Alegre highlights two of his major concerns in his art: the beauty that is woman, and the fascinating, colorful world of nature. For the show, Alegre focuses on colorful blooms.

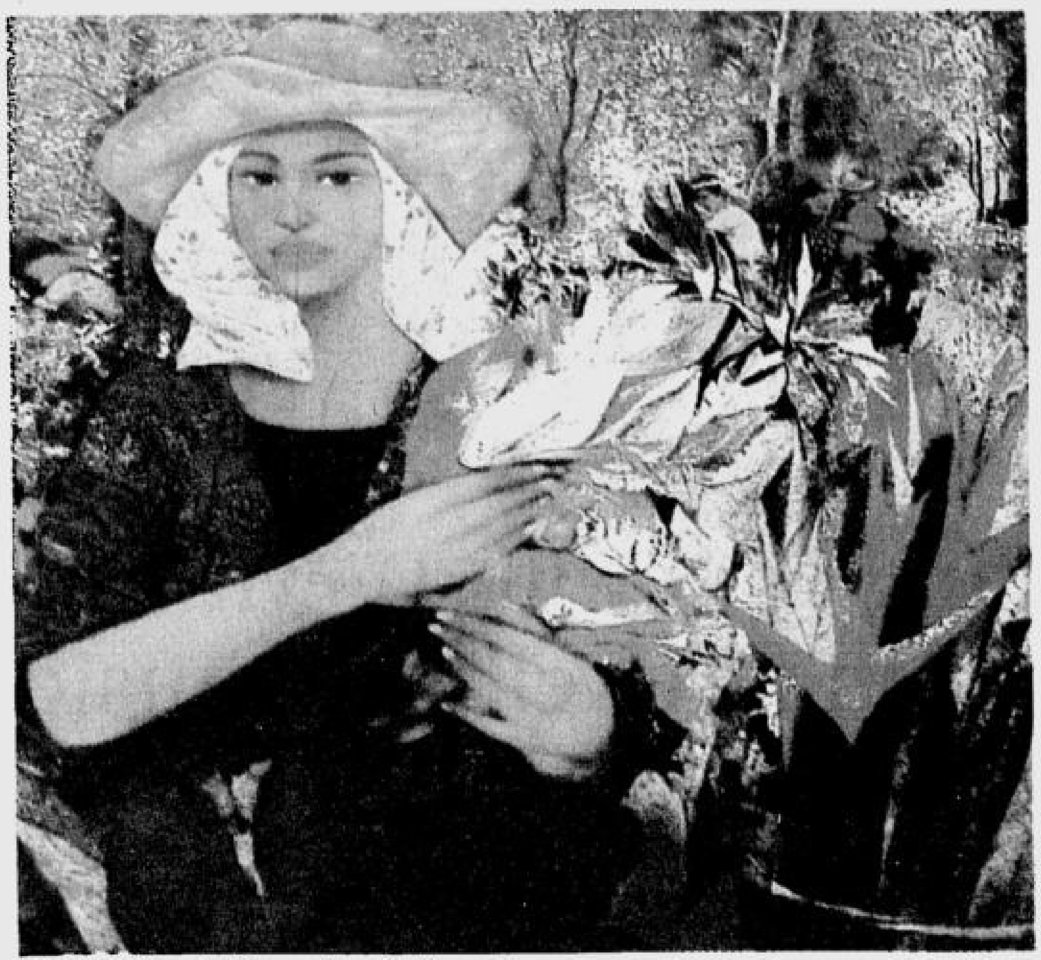
The exhibit marks Alegre's12th year as a professional painter. Guest of honor is Minda C. Cruz, minister and consul general of the Philippine embassy in Singapore.

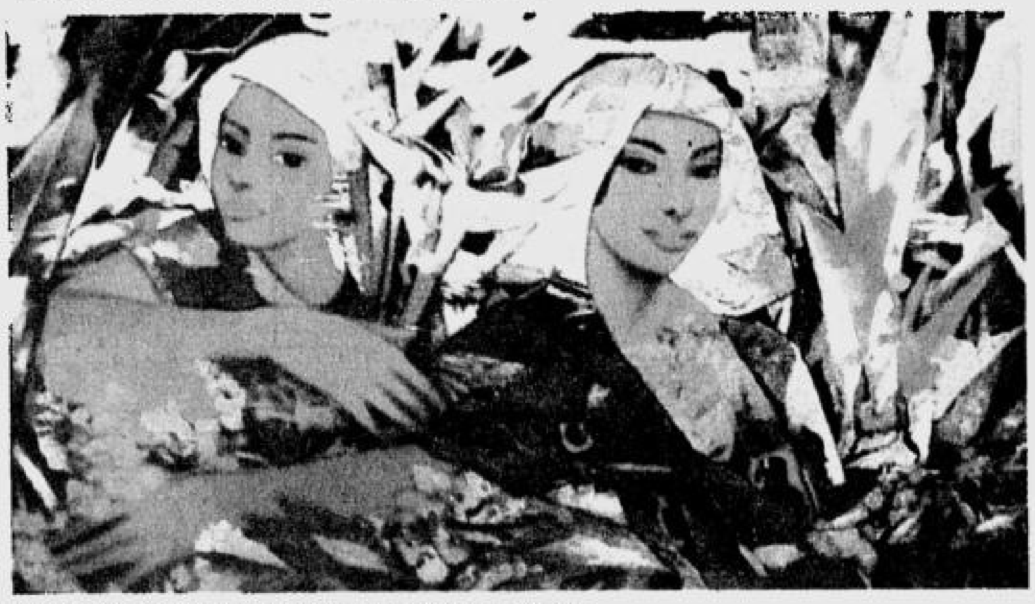
A figurative painter, Alegre is one of the Philippines' leading modernists. He transforms lush countrysides and ambient landscapes into abundant compositions of color and energy.

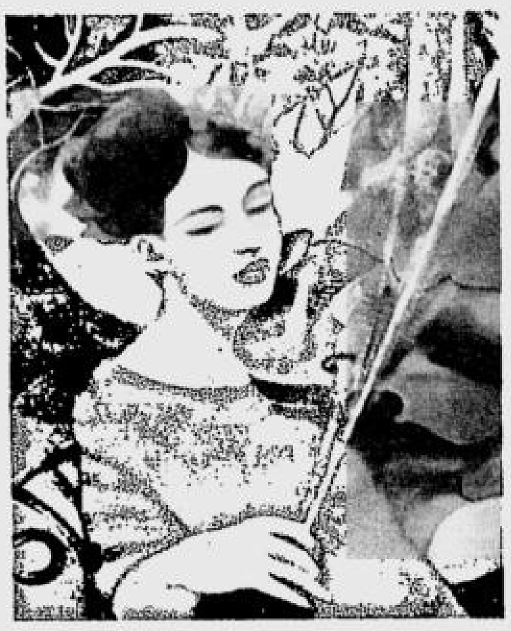
Other artists would adjust their palette and their subjects to suit a more urban and cosmopolitan market. Alegre hopes to accomplish the opposite. "I would like to show them how I see the Asian woman painted in the lively and vibrant colors that the Philippines is known for. Also, I hope my painting nature, forests, blooms and trees, will make the viewers there nostalgic for a world different from the concrete metropolis."

Alegre grew up in Camarines Norte, then pursued his studies in fine arts at the Philippine Women's University. While at PWU, he became closely associated with noted Manila-based painters such as the late Ibarra de la Rosa, Manuel Rodriguez Jr., Pandy Aviado and the late National Artist Jerry Navarro.

Alegre has been a consistent prizewinner in several leading art competitions. He is a founding member of the Blumentritt Group of Artists, which includes artists Allan Cosio, Raul Lebajo, Gig de Pio, Andy Cubi, Egai Fernandez, Popoy Cusi, Greg Bolanos, Jaime Roque, Jonah Salvosa, Ramoncito Racho, Gene Gonzalez, Tony Nunez, Jack Teotico, Camille Verdelaire de la Rosa, Dominic Rubio, Jess Puertollano, Nonoy Duran, Offy Garcia, Gino Carlo Tioseco, Tony Penaflor and Gejo Jimenez.


"HARVEST at the Flower Farm," oil on canvas


"TWO Women Harvesting Flowers," oil on canvas


"MUSIC I," oil on canvas

what goes best
with your
morning coffee?

CEBU DAILY NEWS
your new breakfast buddy.

Subscribe now to
CEBU DAILY NEWS
An Affiliate of the PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
and save up to 40%

For Cebu subscriptions,

Call our Cebu circulation office at (032)3413042
and (032) 3413049 and look for Carmi or Verna
or fax slip to (032) 3413041

Name ____________
Address ____________
Telephone number ____________
Fax Number ____________
Signature ____________

Why are most Europeans so slim?

Introducing
the country's
ONLY
Essential
CARBOHYDRATE
REGULATOR
from Europe...

New!

ALL NATURAL
EXOCAL®
Essential Carbohydrate Regulator
ROEHR
nature + science
EXOCAL

BFAD Approval FR-25221

EXOCAL® is a breakthrough dietary formulation that helps control excess carbohydrate intake the natural way.

- *Increases energy levels*
- *Safe and effective*
- *Accelerates metabolism*

Creates a unique approach towards effective weight management when combined with EXO FAT *Forte*

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL:
Tel. Nos. (02) 638-1691 to 93
Call Center is available Mondays thru Fridays 8am to 7pm and Saturdays 8am to 12nn only.
ROEHR
nature + science
email: exocal@wroehr.com

AVAILABLE AT LEADING DRUGSTORES NATIONWIDE

ESKINOL
Face & Fortune
WIN
₱1 million
and exciting showcases!!!

PROMO MECHANICS

How to Join and Win:
- Buy any size of Eskinol Classic, Eskinol Naturals, Eskinol Advance or Matte & Fresh and get a chance to win in the raffle draw.
- Write your name, address, signature and suking tindahan on a piece of a paper and attach the front and back label of any Eskinol Classic, Eskinol Naturals, Eskinol Advance or Eskinol Matte & Fresh.
- Enclose entry in an envelope and drop in drop boxes located in leading supermarkets, groceries and Aboitiz outlets or mail entry to:

Eskinol Face & Fortune c/o Basic Advertising, Inc.
Zaragoza Bldg, 102 Gamboa St., Legaspi Village, Makati City

aboitiz express QuikPac QuikCash QuikBox

- The labels should at least be 90% intact or complete. Only labels with authenticated security codes will be honored.
- There will be two preliminary draws and a grand draw.

Deadline for submission of entries as follows: 1st preliminary draw - April 27, 2002; 2nd preliminary draw - May 25, 2002; Grand draw - June 30, 2002.
Draw dates as follows: 1st preliminary - May 04, 2002; 2nd preliminary - June 01, 2002; Grand draw - July 06, 2002.
- All draws will be held live in Magandang Tanghali Bayan (MTB), ABS CBN in the presence of a BFAD representative.

PRIZES WORTH UP TO ₱2.5 MILLION!!!

DRAW	PRIZES	AREA OF WINNING ENTRY
1ST Preliminary Draw	(4) Audio-Video Entertainment Showcase	(1) GMA, (1) Luzon, (1) Visayas, (1) Mindanao
	(4) Computer Showcase	(1) GMA, (1) Luzon, (1) Visayas, (1) Mindanao
2ND Preliminary Draw	(4) Living Room Showcase	(1) GMA, (1) Luzon, (1) Visayas, (1) Mindanao
	(4) Kitchen Showcase	(1) GMA, (1) Luzon, (1) Visayas, (1) Mindanao
Grand Draw	Grand Prize : P 1,000,000	(1) National
	(1) 2nd Prize : P 300,000	(1) National
	(2) 3rd Prize : P 100,000	(1) GMA, (1) Luzon, (1) Visayas, (1) Mindanao

See posters for details Per DOH-BFAD Permit No. 0202 Series of 2002

VENEZUELAN Ambassador Milena Ramirez, Evie Costa

MILA Wales, Birgita Rosting, Isabel Wilson, Mariana Hubbard and Pilu Anttola

PHOTOS BY BETOY JOHNSON

MYRNA Borromeo, FCCP president Chloe Romulo-Periquet, Ambassador Umberto Colesanti, Clara Colesanti and Thelma Gana

AMBASSADOR Paul Stephen Diamond and Carolyn Diamond

Getting high with Down-Under wines, Danish farewell and musical nights

Career opportunities start at Southville Foreign Colleges

Global Learning.

Southville Foreign Colleges
Chartered 1998

Global Acceptance.

We offer a portfolio of degree courses from affiliate universities in the U.S., Europe and Australia.

• International Business • International Marketing •
• Advertising and Public Relations Management • Information Technology •
• Computer Graphics & Animation • Hotel & Restaurant Management •

Southville Foreign Colleges

For inquiries, call 820-6774, 820-9181, 825-5147.
Fax 820-5952. Or log on to www.sfc-colleges.com

ACCEPTING APPLICANTS FOR JUNE 2002

DIPLOMATIC SWIRL

By Amiga

A PARTICULARLY pleasant experience this past week was the invitation of **Tony Melville**, charge d'affaires of the Australian embassy, together with **Austrade** and **Dominic Ryan** of Jardine Caldbeck, for Southcorp Wines' special wine-tasting event for three major wine brands: Penfolds, Rosemount and Lindemans.

Southcorp has yearly sales of $1.4 billion of these wines. Penfolds is the No. 1 selling brand in the United Kingdom (it has overtaken the French vintage), while Australian wines, Lindemans in particular, are No. 2 in the United States.

The merger of Southcorp Wines with Australia's family-owned Rosemount Estates has made it the largest premium wine producer in the world. The wines we tasted were basically light bodied, which makes them perfect if you are drinking in this overwhelming heat.

Koh Chin Liang, GM of Southcorp Wines for Southeast Asia, remarked that this was a feature of Australian wines. Penfolds Cabernet Sauvignon and Shiraz from the Coonawarra region in South Australia were particularly memorable.

There was also the Coonawarra Pyrus from Lindemans that won the gold at the Sydney International Wine Competition 2002. As a matter of fact, most of the wines that evening were prizewinners in international shows.

The founder of Lindemans 150 years ago said that wine's one purpose was "to bring happiness to man..." I'm here to report that this is, indeed, true.

* * *

THERE were nine hostesses at the farewell lunch for **Birgita Rosting**, wife of Danish Ambassador **Peter Rosting**, at **Evie Costa**'s residence in Dasmariñas Village, namely: Evie, **Tessie Luz**, **Fortune Ledesma**, **Letty Syquia**, **Nelly Bengson**, **Melly Ablaza**, **Lulu Castañeda**, **Thelma Gana** and **Chit Gohu**.

DOMINIC Ryan, Jardine Caldbeck director and general manager; Tony Merville, counselor and deputy chief of mission; and Brad Camer, regional director for Asia

ROBERT W. Fitts, deputy chief of mission and Mr. and Ms Parameswaran

EVA Koenigswarter

GERALDINE Melville

TEDDY Boy Locsin

It's only now, though, that friends have discovered Birgita's creative talent for making necklaces from stones obtained from the many places she has been to all over the world. Before she leaves, there'll be an exhibit of these wonderful works of art.

Some of the guests were Birgita's good friends from the diplomatic corps, such as **Lena Hakansson**, wife of Swedish Ambassador **Ulf Hakansson**, with whom she speaks Swedish (and who's also leaving, but the world being a small place these days, we're all sure to meet again). There was Mme. **Clara Colesanti** of Italy, Mme. **Michelin Jess** of Germany, Mme. **Mariana Hubbard** of Mexico, Venezuelan Ambassador **Milena Ramirez**, Birgita's bridge-player friends, former ambassador **Isabel Wilson**, **Abla Assad** and **Mila Wales**.

* * *

THE FRIENDS for Cultural Concerns of the Philippines (FCCP) staged another successful Artists and Friends Musicale Evening at the residence of Italian Ambassador **Umberto Colesanti**. The invitational soirée featured three young artists, all scholars of the University of Santo Tomas—violinist **Regina Buenaventura** (granddaughter of National Artist Col. **Antonio Buenaventura**), pianist **Carla Diño** and **Elisante Cortez**.

Special guest performer was **Hae Won Shin**, visiting flutist from Korea, who is the resident flutist at St. Scholastica College.

The well-attended musical was a joint effort of FCCP president **Chloe Romulo Periquet**, special events director Thelma Gana and **Myrna Borromeo**, chair.

Committee members were Melly Ablaza, **Annabelle Adriano**, **Pilie Aquino**, **Nenuca Blardony**, **Grace Brunner**, **Nena Casimiro**, **Lulu Castañeda**, **Tessie Castro**, **Belen Hidalgo**, **Nene Leonor**, **Karen Macasaet**, **Cez Manalo**, **Nori Ongsiako**, **Millie Reyes**, **Boysie Villavicencio**, **Sol Tan-Gatue** and **Pitang Tiongson**.

MEXICAN Ambassador Enrique Hubbard, Marianna Hubbard and Chilean Ambassador Carmen Lynam

NETHERLANDS Ambassador Theo Arnold, Bobby Novenario, Helen Ong and Kessara Arnold

MELLY Ablaza and Letty Syquia

MOLINDER Cadiz, Greg Zuniega, Mary Espina, Carla Diño, Elisanta Cortez, Hae Won Shin and Regina Buenaventura

Sterling Understands

Each one has his own unique way of pouring out his heart and soul in writing - that's why we've developed the finest notebooks there are. Made only from high quality paper that's so smooth and so nice to write on, Sterling brings out the best in you. So whether it's for school, office or other personal needs, no one understands you better than Sterling Notebooks.

Write your heart out...

Definitely High Quality, Definitely Sterling.

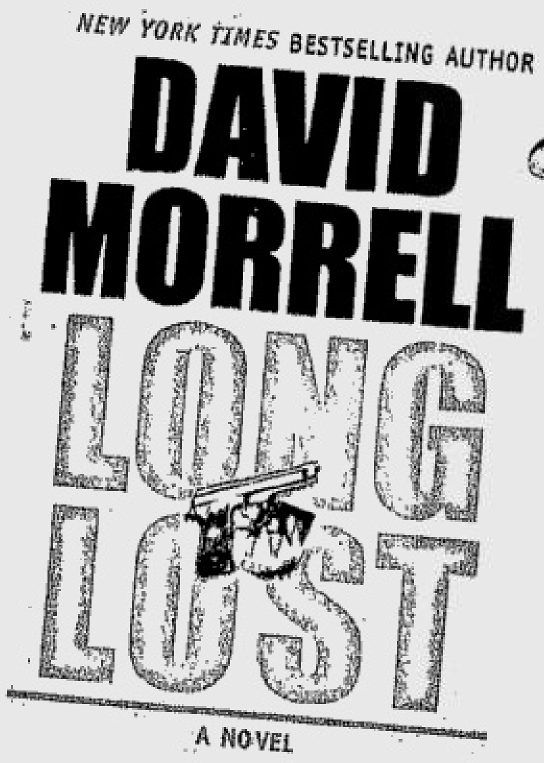
Manufactured by Sterling Paper Products Ent., Inc.
Sterling Place 2302 Pasong Tamo Ext., Makati City, Phils.
e-mail address sterling2302@mnl online.com
Tel. 813-7828 Fax no. 814-0264
Member: Sterling Paper Group Of Companies

Available in all leading bookstores and department stores nationwide

Books

For feedback, text us at (0918)917-5026 or email us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

LIFESTYLE



'Lost' and found terror

Long Lost
By David Morrell
Warner Books, New York, 2002
310 pages

By Ruel S. De Vera

REVIEW

MOST of the planet's population would probably deduce that Sylvester Stallone created John Rambo, the crafty, relentless vet from the motion picture "First Blood." Most of the planet would be wrong.

While that Rambo went on to star in several Xerox-quality sequels, Rambo was actually created by best-selling novelist David Morrell.

Morrell is part of a breed of American fictionists who are able to produce, with impressive regularity, potboilers and page-turners that almost anyone in America likes to read.

"First Blood" the movie was adapted from his first book, written in 1972. Since then, Morrell has written 15 other novels, most notably the 1984 spy thriller "The Brotherhood of the Rose," which was transformed into a taut TV miniseries.

In other words, he is a master of the old-fashioned American thriller.

Catchy premise

Morrell now tries to reclaim that best-selling tensile strength with his latest novel, "Long Lost." Like many of his books, it works on the themes of betrayal and vengeance, as well as that of innocent people fighting to get back to life as they knew it. "Long Lost" takes that and runs with it—probably all the way to a TV screen or a movie theater near you.

The premise is catchy: successful architect Brad Denning is enjoying a quiet family life in Denver with his wife and child. Everything is peachy keen except that he still hurts after losing his younger brother Petey years ago. Back

LOST/ p.F2

MSA ACADEMIC ADVANCEMENT INSTITUTE

College Entrance Tests Review

for schools like

UP Ateneo De La Salle UST

May 27 - June 7 Mon.- Friday June 1 - July 27 Saturdays (RCBC Plaza)

315 Katipunan Avenue, Loyola Heights, Quezon City

Makati	Alabang			Antipolo	Cainta
RCBC Plaza	850-6550	925-7544 929-9159	925-7216 435-6062	646-8245	646-8243

e-mail: msa1@skyinet.net web page: http://www.msatutorial.com

DISCOVER ANOTHER YOU

EMCEEING & HOSTING SEMINAR - WORKSHOP

A hands-on laboratory for individuals who would like to discover and develop their emceeing & hosting skills. Achieve confidence on stage!

June 8 & 9, 2002 / 8:30am - 6:00pm
EDSA SHANGRI-LA HOTEL
Mandaluyong City
Deadline of Registration : June 3, 2002

conducted by
Mr. BUTCH ALBARRACIN
The country's leading trainor/educator in popular music and entertainment.

WE CAN ALSO BRING THE SEMINAR RIGHT IN THE COMFORTS OF YOUR OFFICE

FOR MORE INFORMATION, INQUIRE THROUGH

LEARNAX The Learning Access
A DIVISION OF CENTER FOR POP MUSIC PHILIPPINES INC

73 Emin Garcia St., Cubao, Q.C.
(back of Ramon Magsaysay Cubao High School)
Tels.: 723-9373 • 721-0714
727-5293 • 411-7310

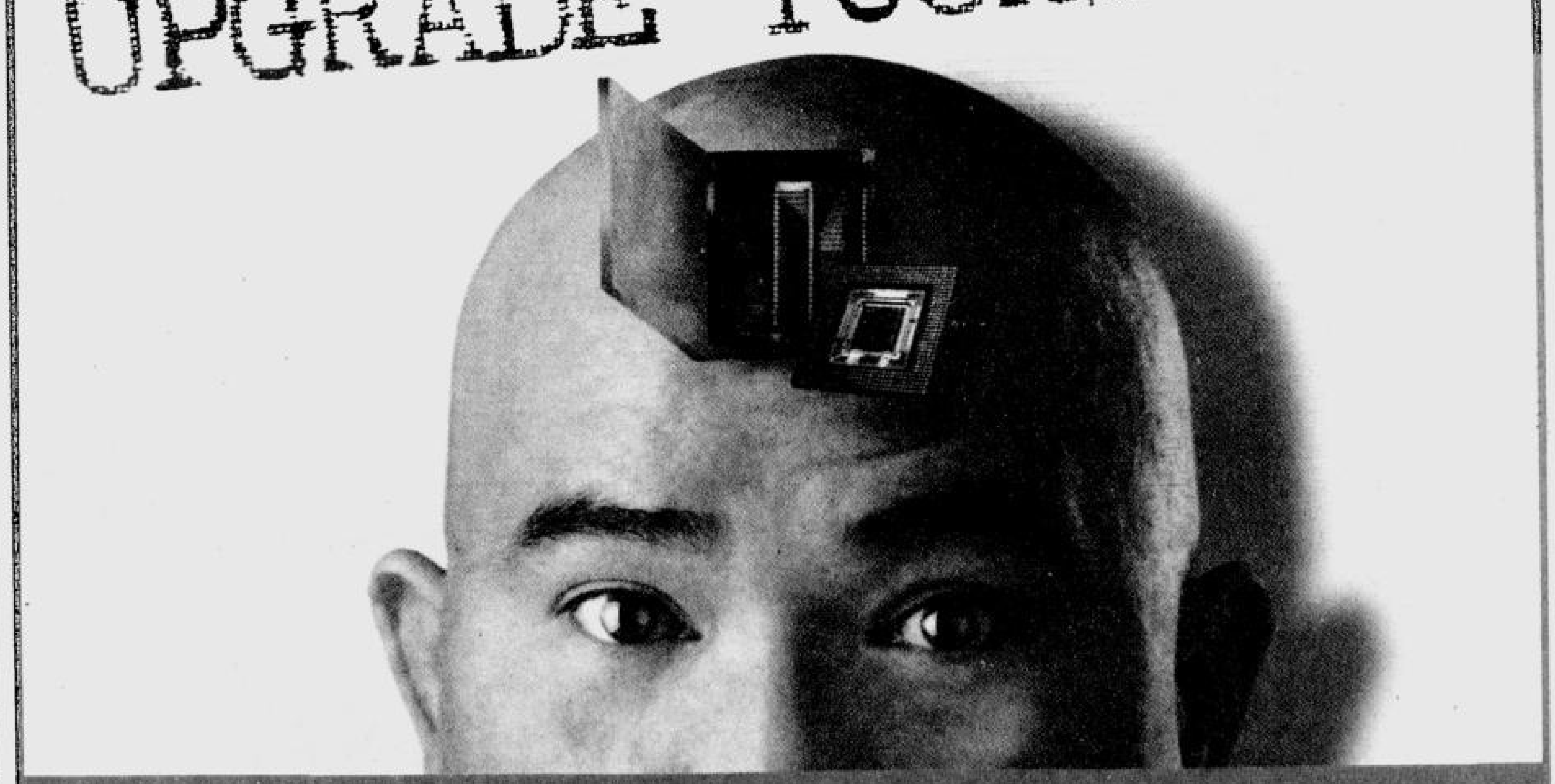
IT'S MORE THAN JUST A SEMINAR. IT'S ENTERTAINMENT!

APTECH™ COMPUTER EDUCATION

Your career advancement depends on what's in your head.

Enroll at APTECH now and get a headstart in IT. Specialize in the cutting-edge technology of your choice. APTECH offers career programs on advanced Java programming, database management systems, web application development and network/systems administration. A profitable and fulfilling career in information technology awaits you.

UPGRADE YOURSELF!



APTECH WORLDWIDE

You may enroll or inquire at the following APTECH Education Centers:

ORTIGAS CENTER: 636-4382 to 84
MAKATI CENTER: 813-4516 to 18
MANILA CENTER: 736-2134 to 35
SUBIC CENTER: (047) 252-2605
email: inquiry@aptech-philippines.com

Health & Beauty

SKIN AND BODY CARE

THE AROMA THERAPY CENTER
salon•spa•skincenter•slimming
5/F Bldg. B SM Megamall ☎ 637.5411-12
2/F Garden Sq. Bldg. Greenbelt ☎ 812.9002

TOTAL RELAXATION FOR 500 AND BELOW
- OXYGEN BAR
- HOT OIL
- FOOT SPA
- BODY MASSAGE

VARICOSE & SPIDER VEINS
Body Accents Cosmetic Surgery-Skin & Varicose Vein Treatment Center
TREATMENT W/O SURGERY
928-1610 . 927-9375. 687-5392
Free Consultation!!!

BODY WELLNESS
AROMATHERAPY & REFLEXOLOGY
For Men and Women
"Give your body the break it deserves"
[illegible]
Tel. 372-3403

Can Hontel
Facial & Aromatherapy Center
842-9976 / 98
[illegible]
25% DISCOUNT
FREE ARMPIT WHITENING UPON ENROLLMENT
- Intensive Facial Treatment
- Specific Skin & Body Care
- Non-Surgical Facelifting
See & Experience The Difference...

INCH LOSS PROGRAM
NO EXERCISE PILLS INJECTION OPERATION
HOTLINE: 772-2659
WHY YOU SHOULD SAY YES TO A SLIM NEW YOU
20% DISCOUNT ON ALL SLIMMING PROGRAM
FREE TRIAL TREATMENT FOR THE FIRST 30 CLIENTS

Power Peel
Face & Body Skin Care Clinic
TELEFAX: 413-7459
[illegible]
PROMO EXTENDED
50% OFF
POWER PEEL
MICRO DERMABRASION

ADVERTISE YOUR PRODUCTS/SERVICES [illegible]

ACSAT
ASIAN COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

ENROLL NOW!

ALABANG
Tel. Nos.: (02)861-5377 to 79
E-mail: acsatalabang@hotmail.com

BAYAWAN
Tel. Nos.: (035)531-0260; 225-4804
E-mail: acsat02@mozcom.com

CAGAYAN DE ORO
Tel. Nos.: (08822)72491; (088)857-3745
E-mail: acsatcdo@philcom.com.ph

CUBAO
Tel. Nos.: (02)912-3236; 912-3239
E-mail: acsatcubao@yahoo.com

LOWER ANTIPOLO
Tel. Nos.: (02)681-5627; 681-6608
E-mail: acsatla@hotmail.com

BALIUAG
Tel. Nos.: (044)673-2021; 766-4570
E-mail: acsatbal@digitelone.com

CABANATUAN
Tel. Nos.: (044)463-3318; 463-4144
E-mail: acsatcab@digitelone.com

CALOOCAN
Tel. Nos.: (02)366-7221; 366-7223
E-mail: acsatcaloocan@hotmail.com

DUMAGUETE
Tel. Nos.: (035)225-4714; 225-5941
E-mail: acsat03@mozcom.com

NOVALICHES
Tel. Nos.: (02)418-3471; 936-9611
E-mail: acsatnova@yahoo.com

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE
AFFORDABLE QUALITY EDUCATION

Microsoft Press ISCET University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate Sun

COURSES OFFERED
BACHELOR'S DEGREES:
- BS Business Administration (BSBA)
  - Major in Computer Management
  - Major in Entrepreneurial Management
  - Major in Management
- BS Electronics & Computer Technology (BSECT)
- BS Office Administration (BSOA)
  - Major in Computer Systems & Office Management
- BS Computer Science (BSComSci)
- BS Computer Engineering (BSComEng)

TWO-YEAR COURSES:
- Electronics & Computer Technology (ECT)
- Computer Systems & Office Management (ComSys)
- Computer Science Technology (ComSci)
- Computer Engineering Technology (ComEng)

'Lost' and found terror

From page F1

when they were kids, Petey showed up to watch his older brother play baseball. Brad sent him home. But Petey never came home. Despite their best efforts, the younger sibling was never found.

Move the clock forward. After Brad appears on TV, a man who claims to be Petey shows up and—much to Brad's surprise—seemingly proves himself to be Petey. Overjoyed at this unexpected reunion, Brad goes all out to make up for lost time, even housing Petey in his own home.

But, as it always is in the world of the American novelist, all is not what it seems. After a camping trip goes awry, Brad finds himself left for dead. Miraculously summoning the strength to survive, he returns home, only to find his family gone and that, according to the authorities, the man claiming to be Petey is actually a dangerous con man named Lester Dant.

But deep in his gut, as all protagonists in this kind of book do, Brad knows it is Petey. Petey must have returned to take away Brad's life because Brad is to blame for all that has happened to Petey. When the authorities give up on the search, Brad takes it upon himself to track down Petey, Lester or whoever he is. Brad also buys a gun to take with him for good measure.

Diverting

The rest of "Long Lost" is actually quite diverting. Morrell draws on his narrative and characterization techniques to craft a real page-turner. Readers will find themselves engrossed in Brad's search, particularly when Brad tries to think like Petey. The search will take him to another family with a secret, to a literal pit of snakes, and to his own past.

As a character, Brad himself is quite bland, although sympathetic. Perhaps it's just that he's too well equipped to have readers worried he won't succeed. Petey or Lester is a dime-store bad guy with a back story—more perplexing than scary, a by-the-numbers villain.

In fact, the most interesting character in "Long Lost" is a peripheral but significant one, former FBI man-turned-private investigator Payne, who, with his goldfish and past exploits, has far more personality than all the other characters put together.

The rest of "Long Lost," minus the admittedly intriguing reasons and back stories, is actually quite predictable. Morrell's book runs like a machine, impressively effective and efficient, but hardly inventive.

Each short chapter seems perfectly measured, even too measured at times. By the time Brad gets, again literally, to the bottom of things, it all seems too well put together, too cleanly resolved.

But a lot of readers like that—and a lot of TV viewers. While admitting that "Long Lost" won't change your life or perspective, it's more than a fair piece of work. It's actually a fairly entertaining, addictive page-turner that grabs you and won't let go until you've finished it—much like that movie-of-the-week that you finished against your better judgment.

David Morrell exhibits great narrative powers in "Long Lost," an unassuming book that will, without a doubt, sell at a lot of airport bookstores, climb up the bestseller charts, and eventually get to the screen in some form or other.

Available in hardcover at PowerBooks

The best-selling creator of Rambo thrills and spills in this diverting but predictable page-turner

Book traces common Christian-Muslim values and beliefs

CAN Muslim and Christian Filipinos live harmoniously because they have common values, beliefs and practices? Why pursue peace in Mindanao by solely understanding differences between Philippine Muslim and Christian families when they are more alike than different?

These and many other interesting issues are extensively discussed in the book "Muslim and Christian Cultures: In Search of Commonalities," published by the Asian Institute of Journalism and Communication and Unesco Phils., and edited by former AIJC president and now senior adviser Florangel Rosario-Braid.

The book identifies commonalities in eight areas: community life, political life, women, religion, family life, legal aspects, education and sustainable development.

In his preface, former President Fidel V. Ramos noted that the book offers a timely discourse on Muslim and Christian relations, and a new perspective on how our leaders can best address issues of peace and development in our country. For Vice President Teofisto T. Guingona, the book offers infinite possibilities toward healing the wounds of war in Mindanao.

The book contains papers written by noted Filipino scholars, such as Datu Michael Mastura, lawyer Soliman Santos, Carmen Abubakar, Fr. Oscar Ante, Luis Lacar, Mohd. Musib M. Buat, Hadja Roqaiya Maglangit and Abhoud Syed M. Linga. Also included are the views of equally eminent individuals such as Jose Abueva, Thelma Kintanar, Wadja Esmula, Margarita Cojuangco, Erlinda Peñanco, among others.

The book is available at the Philippine Social Science Center, La Solidaridad Bookstore, UP Press and the AIJC. Call AIJC at 724-4564/4604 or 725-4227/8.

MILLION DOLLAR ROUND TABLE QUALIFIERS
& NATIONAL PRESTIGE CLUB MEMBERS

MILLION DOLLAR
ROUND TABLE QUALIFIERS

MILLION DOLLAR ROUND TABLE QUALIFIERS
Second row, from left to right:
Maripaz R. Reyes, Ermita DO, MDRT Qualifying Member
Ma. Asuncion T. Azuelo, Cebu DSO VIII, MDRT Qualifying Member
First row, from left to right:
Celia P. Esma, General Santos DSO IX, MDRT Life Member
Teresita D. Dada, LUTCF, Dada Insurance Agency, Inc., MDRT Qualifying & Life Member

MILLION DOLLAR ROUND TABLE QUALIFIERS & NATIONAL PRESTIGE CLUB MEMBERS
Third row, from left to right:
Mercedita F. Noro, Cebu DSO VIII, MDRT Qualifying Member, NPC Qualifying Member
Rebecca C. Eustaquio, Pasig DSO I, MDRT Qualifying Member, NPC Qualifying Member
Genevieve R. Ramos, Cebu DSO IX, MDRT Qualifying Member, NPC Qualifying Member
Dorothy N. Go, Balanga DSO I, MDRT Qualifying Member, NPC Qualifying Member
Lou-Anna Mae L. Rondina, Dumaguete DSO, MDRT Qualifying Member, NPC Qualifying Member
Romeo G. Hipolito, Cebu Sto. Niño DSO, MDRT Qualifying Member, NPC Qualifying Member
Second row, from left to right:
Arsile M. Malipero, Tagum DSO IV, MDRT Qualifying Member, NPC Qualifying Member
Victoria L. Juan, FL Juan Insure Link, MDRT Qualifying Member, NPC Qualifying Member
Carmen C. Yap, Valencia DSO II, MDRT Qualifying Member, NPC Executive Member
Zenaida V. Garcia, Z.V. Garcia Ins. Agency, MDRT Qualifying Member, NPC Qualifying Member
Nunnatus A. Cortez, LUTCF, Benpres Ins. Agency, Inc., MDRT Qualifying Member, NPC Associate Member
Lina S. Abrantes, Davao DO, MDRT Qualifying Member, NPC Qualifying Member
Leonido C. Gameng, LUTCF, A.A. Grajo & Associates, Inc., MDRT Qualifying Member, NPC Associate Member
First row, from left to right:
Marietta G. Lantican, Citilife Ins. Agency, Inc., MDRT Qualifying Member, NPC Executive Member
Joselito P. Lee, LUTCF, Binondo DSO, MDRT Qualifying Member, NPC Executive Member
Avelina G. de Jesus, LUTCF, De Jesus & Associates, Inc., MDRT Honor Roll/Qualifying & Life Member, NPC Qualifying Member
Marilou L. dela Cruz, LUTCF, Buendia DSO, MDRT Honor Roll/Qualifying & Life Member, NPC Associate Member
Jinna P. Domino, A.J. Domino & Ass. Gen. Ins. Agency, Inc., MDRT Qualifying & Life Member, NPC Executive Member
Carmen L. Sly, Pagadian DSO, MDRT Qualifying Member, NPC Executive Member

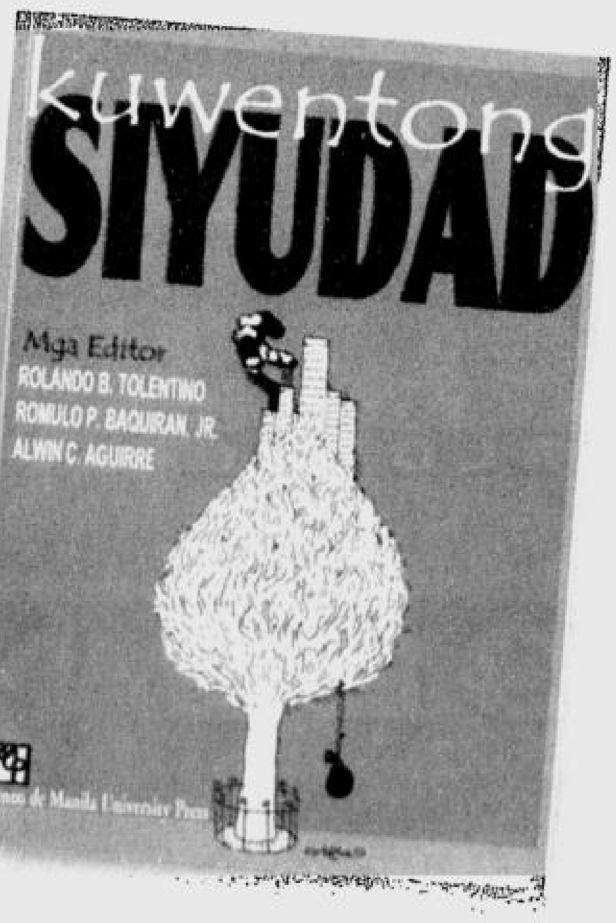
91st ANNIVERSARY

Tales of the city

"KUWENTONG Siyudad" is a collection of 27 short stories that reflect, examine and celebrate the joys and sorrows, frustrations and triumphs, of living in the city—as students, teachers, sisters, brothers, lovers, office workers, laborers, refugees, exiles, migrant workers. As editors Roland Tolentino, Romulo Baquiran and Alwin Aguirre point out, "We who define the city are in turn defined by it. Here are the stories, the map of our life in the city."

Written in contemporary Filipino by some of today's most prolific artists, the stories collectively or through their individual characters enliven and educate, entertain and enlighten. Featured here are the works of Aguirre, John Barrios, Anna Maria M. Gonzales Biglang-awa, Frank Cimatu, Mes de Guzman, Jerry Gracio, Eli Guieb III, Alva Marano, Gil Mendoza, Vim Nadera, Roselle Pineda, Allan Popa, Rommel Rodriguez, Elyrah Salanga, Joseph Salazar, Luna Sicat, Ma. Ellen Sicat, Kerima Tariman Tolentino, Elmer Ursolino and Alvin Yapan.

Published by the Ateneo de Manila University Press (tel. 426-5984/6001 local 4612), "Kuwentong Siyudad" will soon be available at bookstores nationwide.



Edilberto Tiempo's last novel now in bookstores

NEW Day Publishers, a pioneer Filipiniana and religious publishing company, has released "Farah," the last work of literary icon Edilberto Tiempo. The book, written before the author's death in 1996, is the story of Farah Uparaj, a young Muslim girl who studied in Manila and became acculturated to the "high society" life of the city.

The 358-page, 26-chapter novel shows how Farah's values changed. The royal Tausug daughter from Siasi town in Sulu first joins the famed Bayanihan Dance Troupe of the Philippine Women's University, then becomes a successful commercial model and Broadway performer. She succumbs to the lure and temptation of the cosmopolitan life, even sacrificing her family, career and love to achieve her goals.

But despite all the worldly distractions, Farah would always return to the *martabat*, the honor code Tausugs have adhered to for generations.

"Farah" is an interesting story of how ordinary, well-meaning people, Muslim or Christian, can yield to vanity and overlook the more important things in life. It also allows a better appreciation of the culture of the Muslims.

Tiempo, who received Guggenheim and Rockefeller fellowships, organized with his wife Edith, a National Artist, the annual National Writers Workshops at the Silliman University in Dumaguete City. Started in 1962, the workshop produced some of the country's finest contemporary novelists, essayists and fiction writers.

The book is now available at leading bookstores nationwide. Call New Day Publishers at 928-8046 or 927-5982.

Portrait in Sepia
ISABEL ALLENDE

Isabel Allende just keeps them coming

In 'Portrait in Sepia,' a poet's sensibility interlocks with a novelist's gift for narration and for creating memorable characters

Portrait in Sepia
By Isabel Allende
Perennial Books, 2001
304 pages

By Amadis Ma. Guerrero
Contributor

REVIEW

WELL, the Chilean novelist Isabel Allende is on a roll. Her recent book, "Daughter of Fortune," was well received by the critics and became an international hit. It was very visible in Metro Manila and other regional centers, sold well, and even made it to the bestseller list of National Bookstore.

Now, barely a year later, comes the sequel, "Portrait in Sepia." And, it turns out, it is also the prequel to Allende's first—and stunning—novel, "The House of the Spirits (La Casa de los Espiritos)."

Two of the important characters in this new novel are Severo and Nivea del Valle, whom we met in the earlier novel. The highly fertile Nivea (played by Vanessa Redgrave in the film version) is pregnant every year and gives Severo a total of 15 children. These include the ill-fated Rosa the Beautiful and Clara the Clairvoyant (played by Meryl Streep), heroine of "The House of the Spirits."

"Daughter of Fortune" was set in the mid-1850s during the period of the San Francisco gold rush. "Portrait in Sepia" picks up the story a generation later, the time frames being 1862-1880, 1880-1896 and 1896-1910.

The novel is also a partial history of turbulent Chile during the last half of the 19th century. Through Severo del Valle's eyes, the author describes the horrors of war in vivid detail: the War of the Pacific, pitting Chile against Peru and Bolivia; and the numerous civil wars and revolutions in Chile.

Most of the time, however, the book is concerned with the interlocking histories and complex relationships between the Del Valle and Sommers families.

Eliza Sommers, the headstrong young heroine of "Daughter of Fortune," is now married to her soul mate, the wise and gentle Chinese doctor, Tao Chi'en. They live and work in Chinatown, San Francisco, and have two children: Lucky, who is proud of his Chinese roots; and Lynn, the most beautiful girl in the city, brought up to be North American.

The naive and innocent Lynn falls for the unworthy Matias, a son of the colorful and eccentric Paulina del Valle. Lynn becomes pregnant and gives birth to a daughter, Aurora, from whose point of view much of the narrative unfolds.

Aurora, like all of Allende's heroines, is an emancipated and passionate woman, no doubt an extension of the author's personality, in much the same way, crossing genders now, Hemingway's heroes are a reflection of the novelist's macho persona.

From the age of 5, Aurora is brought up by her formidable paternal grandmother, Paulina del Valle. The first five years of her life are a blank and Aurora suffers from recurring nightmares, in which children clad in black pajamas are pursuing her.

Aurora marries the dashing Diego Dominguez, son of the benevolent *hacienderos* Don Sebastian and Doña Elvira, and goes off to live in the family hacienda in Coleufu, Chile.

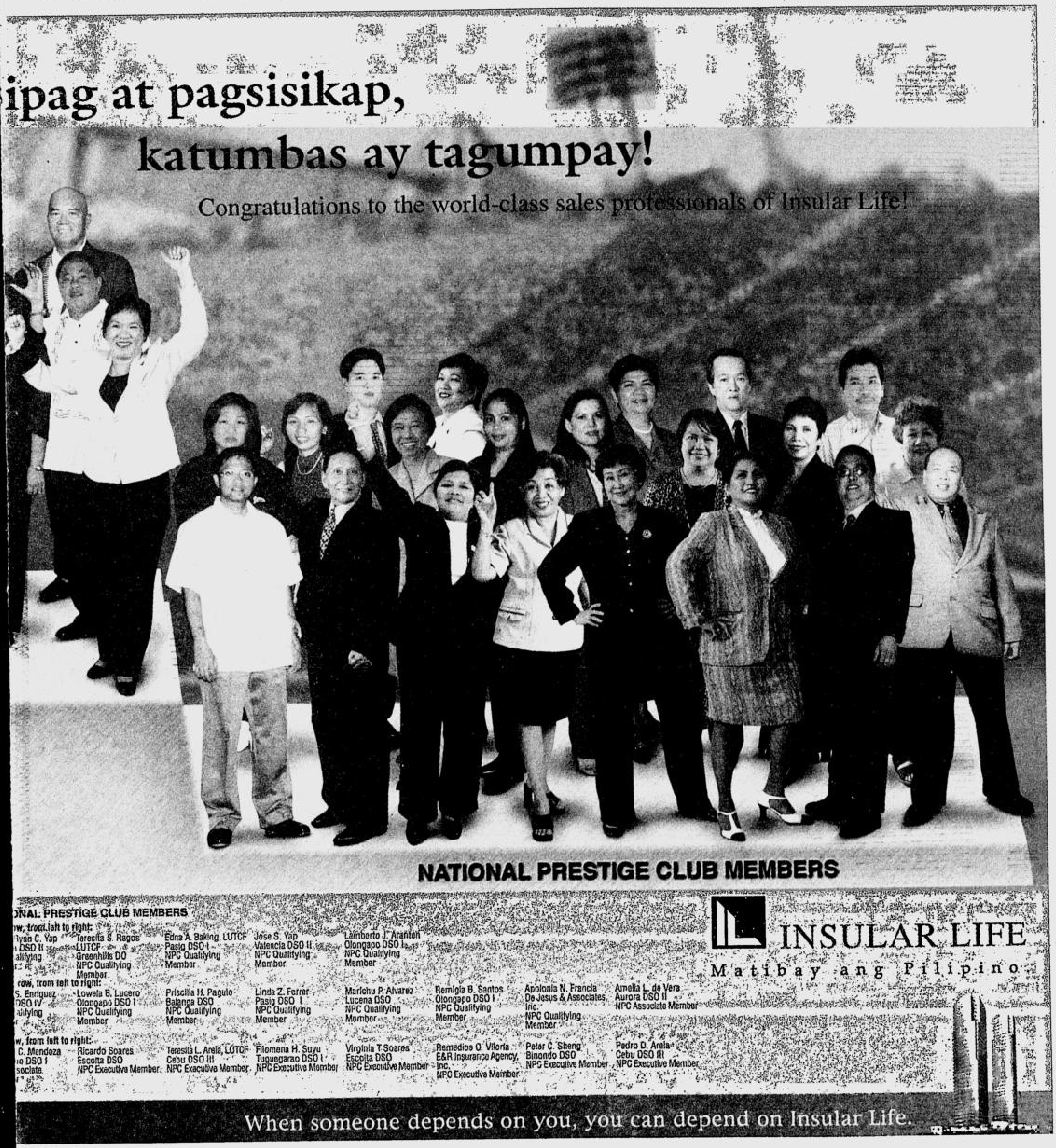
Like the Buendias of Gabriel Garcia Marquez's "One Hundred Years of Solitude (Cien Años de Soledad)," Diego is a solitary man: He was "brought up in the magnitude of nature, accustomed to silence."

Author Allende captures the rhythm of life in an hacienda at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries, with its peasants (*campesinos*), visiting Indians, ruggedly beautiful terrain, long winters and glorious springs.

Diego turns out to be an indifferent husband. And when Aurora discovers the reason, she receives the shock of her life. At the end, the secret of her early childhood, the source of her frightful dreams, is revealed.

In "Portrait in Sepia," a poet's sensibility interlocks with a novelist's gift for narration and for creating memorable characters.

Through six novels, a collection of short stories and two memoirs, Allende has managed to maintain the almost uniform quality of her body of works. She deserves her popularity and her wide, literate readership.


ipag at pagsisikap,
katumbas ay tagumpay!
Congratulations to the world-class sales professionals of Insular Life!
NATIONAL PRESTIGE CLUB MEMBERS
INSULAR LIFE
Matibay ang Pilipino
When someone depends on you, you can depend on Insular Life.

ONAL PRESTIGE CLUB MEMBERS
w, from left to right:
lyan C. Yap, DSO II, alifying — Teresita S. Regos, LUTCF, Greenhills DO, NPC Qualifying Member — Edna A. Baking, LUTCF, Pasig DSO I, NPC Qualifying Member — Jose S. Yap, Valencia DSO II, NPC Qualifying Member — Lamberto J. Aranton, Olongapo DSO I, NPC Qualifying Member
row, from left to right:
S. Enriquez, DSO IV, alifying — Lowela B. Lucero, Olongapo DSO I, NPC Qualifying Member — Priscila H. Pagulo, Balanga DSO, NPC Qualifying Member — Linda Z. Ferrer, Pasig DSO I, NPC Qualifying Member — Marichu P. Alvarez, Lucena DSO, NPC Qualifying Member — Remigia B. Santos, Olongapo DSO I, NPC Qualifying Member — Apolonia N. Francia, De Jesus & Associates, Inc., NPC Qualifying Member — Amelia L. de Vera, Aurora DSO II, NPC Associate Member
w, from left to right:
C. Mendoza, o DSO I, sociate — Ricardo Soares, Escolta DSO, NPC Executive Member — Teresita L. Arela, LUTCF, Cebu DSO III, NPC Executive Member — Filomena H. Suyu, Tuguegarao DSO I, NPC Executive Member — Virginia T Soares, Escolta DSO, NPC Executive Member — Remedios O. Viloria, E&R Insurance Agency, Inc., NPC Executive Member — Peter C. Sheng, Binondo DSO, NPC Executive Member — Pedro D. Arela, Cebu DSO III, NPC Executive Member

UST offers Master's in Creative Writing

THE UNIVERSITY of Santo Tomas Graduate School is now offering a Master's in Creative Writing starting in June.

Made possible through the efforts of the UST Center for Creative Writing and Studies (UST-CCWS), the new MA program is designed especially for students who are interested in honing their writing craft, particularly along the lines of poetry, fiction, drama and nonfiction.

Courses in poetry, fiction and drama, and their corresponding workshops, compose some of the core and major subjects of the program. Also offered are supplementary subjects such as Principles of Literary Criticism, Contemporary Literary Theory, Literary Research, and Editing, Manuscript Preparation, and Publication.

Distinguished writers compose the faculty, among them National Artist F. Sionil Jose, Ophelia Alcantara Dimalanta, Cirilo Bautista, Paulino Lim Jr., Merlinda Bobis, J. Neil Garcia, Jose Victor Torres, Rebecca Luz Añonuevo and Michael Coroza.

Those with a Bachelor's degree in Literature, English, Communication Arts, Journalism, or any related field are eligible to apply. Samples of previous writing must be submitted to the admissions committee. A writing project proposal must also be submitted a week before enrollment.

Call the UST Graduate School at 731-3101 local 247/731-5396; or Ferdie Lopez or Eric Melendez of the UST CCWS at 731-3101 local 8281.

CMMA 2002 now open for nominations

NOMINATIONS for the Catholic Mass Media Awards (CMMA) 2002 are now being accepted at the 5/F 2113 Dominga Building, Pasong Tamo corner De la Rosa Streets, Makati City.

Fr. Joselito Jopson, executive director of the CMMA, encourages every sector of Philippine society to submit nominations to the CMMA. "The most active media practitioners are the Filipino viewers and readers because they know what is either productive or destructive to themselves, to their children and to their country. They have the power to control mass media," he said.

The CMMA is given in the fields of television, radio, print, advertising, music, cinema and the Internet. Student productions are recognized in the Student CMMA, which is now on its second year.

The CMMA 2002 was launched simultaneously with "Word in the Street," a compilation of the columns of Fr. James B. Reuter, S.J., that appeared in the weekly Philippine Graphic magazine, at the Asian Institute of Management, May 20. Father Reuter was the first CMMA executive director.

Deadline for submission of entries at the CCMA is 5 p.m., July 5. Call 812-1833, 807-4026 or 892-4779.

Philippine Bookfair 2002 slated on Aug. 31-Sept. 8

THE PHILIPPINE Bookfair 2002, the country's most prestigious and biggest annual book event, will be held at the Megatrade Hall B, 5/L SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City, on Aug. 31-Sept. 8.

With the theme "Building Strengths through Reading," the event hopes to instill healthy reading habits, especially among the youth.

The annual event gathers the key players in the Philippines book trade as well as international publishing companies and allied firms offering fairly priced reading and learning products. It has become renowned for its best-quality reading materials, business opportunities and special events.

The bookfair is organized by the Association of Philippine Booksellers, Asian Catholic Publishers Inc., Book Development Association of the Philippines, Publishers' Representatives Organization of the Philippines, and Primetrade Asia Inc., the exhibition events manager.

Call Primetrade Asia at 896-0661/0682, telefax 896-0695, or e-mail ptrade@philonline com.

MULTIVITAMINS
ENERVON-C PLUS
ENERVON-C
PLUSCARD

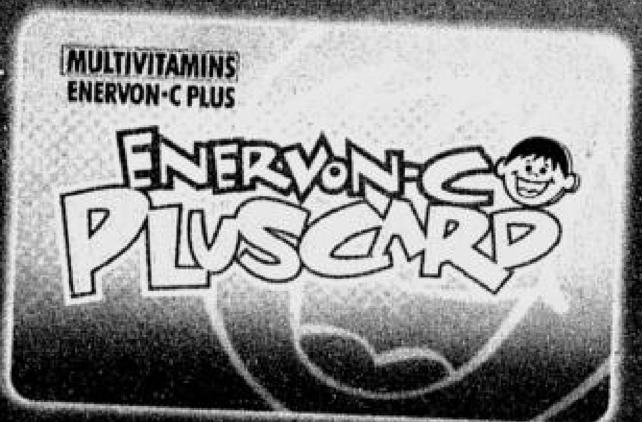
PLUS CARD. MENOS GASTOS!

MULTIVITAMINS
ENERVON-C plus
Increases Body Resistance
Promotes Growth

Ang Enervon-C Plus Card ang inyong kontra-gastos card! At sa dami ng makukuha mong discounts sa mga shops, restaurants, hotels, resorts , drugstores at iba pa, talagang tipid ka! Hindi lang yon- - may mga special offers at iba pang sorpresang naghihintay sa inyo. Sa Enervon-C Plus Syrup, 'di lang proteksyong kontra-sakit ng Vitamin C at B-Complex ang makukuha, may pangkontra-gastos ka pa!

MULTIVITAMINS ENERVON-C PLUS

Para maka-avail ng inyong Enervon-C Plus Card, mag fill-up ng application form na nasa baba. Isulat ang mga hinihinging impormasyon, ilagay sa isang envelope kasama'ng alin man sa sumusunod na bilang ng boxtops ng Enervon-C Plus : isang 500mL, dalawang 250mL, apat na 120mL, o anim na 60mL. Ipadala ang mga ito sa : Probus-Unilab, Ortigas Ave., San Juan, Metro Manila o ihulog sa dropbox na matatagpuan sa mga piling tindahan.



Per DOH-BFAD Permit No. 0334, Series of 2002

ENERVON-C PLUSCARD APPLICATION FORM

LAST NAME

FIRST NAME

OCCUPATION ______ SEX ☐M ☐F CIVIL STATUS ☐SINGLE ☐MARRIED

MAILING ADDRESS

NO. STREET BARANGAY

TOWN/CITY PROVINCE ZIP CODE

CONTACT NUMBER BIRTHDATE (MONTH/DAY/YEAR) AGE

NAME OF CHILD/CHILDREN BIRTHDATE(MONTH/DAY/YEAR) AGE

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

MONTH/DAY/YEAR

IMPORTANT: Please read these terms and conditions carefully. Your signature on the Enervon-C Plus Card constitutes your agreement to the following terms and conditions:

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

1. THE CARD: The Enervon-C Plus Card is a privilege card. It is not a credit card or cash card.
2. RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CARDHOLDER: The cardholder agrees to sign the card immediately upon receipt thereof and agrees to safeguard the Card and not allow its use by other persons.
3. NON-TRANSFERABILITY: Only the person indicated on the face of the Card and whose signature appears thereon may avail of the benefits of the Card. The Card and the corresponding benefits and privileges are non-transferable.
4. LOST OR DAMAGED CARDS: Lost or damaged cards should be reported immediately to United Laboratories, Inc. ("Unilab") through the hotline indicated on the Card. However, Unilab shall have no obligation to replace lost or damaged cards.
5. ACCREDITED ESTABLISHMENTS: Unilab has entered into an agreement with the establishments listed in the booklet for the enjoyment of benefits and privileges by the Cardholder. Unilab reserves the right to add or subtract from the list of accredited establishments for whatever reason it may deem proper. In any event. Unilab shall not be liable if, for any reason, the accredited establishments fail or refuse to honor the Card.
6. REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION: Unilab and/or the participating establishments reserve the right to dishonor, revoke, or suspend the use of the Card at any time without prior notice.
7. EXPIRY OF THE CARD: Unless earlier terminated by Unilab or voluntarily cancelled or surrendered by the Cardholder, the Card shall be valid until May 31, 2004.
8. AMENDMENTS: Unilab may, at any time and for whatever reason it may deem proper, amend, revise, or modify this Agreement and any such amendment shall bind the Cardholder upon notice (by publication or otherwise) or on the date of effectivity as specified in the notice, whichever is earlier.
9. AGREEMENT TO THESE TERMS AND CONDITIONS: The Cardholder's signature on the Enervon-C Plus Card constitutes the Cardholder's agreement to these terms and conditions.

SC ruling on Kuratong Baleleng expected today

STORY ON PAGE A2

P21 BILLION?! MAKONSYENSYA NAMAN KAYO!

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

WHAT'S INSIDE

- **Ice detected in Mars** WORLD / A14
- **Horry triple lifts Lakers past Kings** SPORTS / A22
- **Erap camp presents Dichaves 'errand girl'** NEWS / A4

e-mail: feedback@inquirer.com.ph Tuesday, May 28, 2002 ★ 46 pages / 4 sections / vol.17 / no. 169 P15 website: www.inq7.net

P21B of budget lost to graft, says solon

Andaya: Reforms on pork needed

By Juliet L. Javellana

A WHOPPING P21 billion of the government's P104-billion procurement budget last year went to the pockets of legislators, officials and contractors, according to a leader of the House of Representatives.

Camarines Sur Rep. Rolando Andaya Jr., chair of the House appropriations committee, said the P21 billion was lost to graft and corruption due to collusion, lack of competition and transparency and delays in the implementation of government projects.

The procurement budget, which includes the pork barrel of senators and members of the House of Representatives, covers goods and services, civil works and infrastructure projects, according to Andaya.

Pork barrel is a known source of kickback for legislators. Sen. Panfilo Lacson, who is calling for the scrapping of pork barrel, claims that as much as 60 percent of the budget for a farm-to-market road is lost to corruption.

Each senator is entitled to P200 million worth of projects every year from the Priority Development Assistance Fund (PDAF) from various departments and the public works funds of the Department of Public Works and Highways.

A congressman is entitled to P65 million in PDAF, formerly the Countrywide Development Fund, and a minimum of P35 million in public works fund.

The P21 billion in procurement funds lost to corruption is about half the DPWH budget this year. It is bigger than the P16.8-billion budget of state universities and colleges and the separate budgets of the departments of transportation (P13.3 billion), of

P21B/A19

WAKASAN
P-ESTENG
P-AMIRAL
A-RROYO
Sabuatang MAYNILAD MERALCO
MERALCO
OAKLEY

PROTESTERS burn a reproduction of a Manila Electric Co. billing to dramatize their opposition to another round of rate increases being sought by the power firm. An independent study had found that Meralco had been overcharging its customers. AFP

Tell Meralco to cut rates, GMA urged

By Ronnel W. Domingo, Cynthia D. Balana and Christine Avendaño

MILITANT groups yesterday urged President Macapagal-Arroyo to "order" the reduction of Manila Electric Co.'s power rates after the INQUIRER reported that an independent study had found the company overcharging its customers again.

"The ball is now in (the) President's hands," said Renato Reyes Jr., Bagong Alyansang Makabayan spokesperson.

The study found that Meralco had been overcharging its 3.4 million customers by as much as 40.8 centavos per kilowatt-hour.

The study said Meralco should reduce its rates by the same amount instead of seeking an increase of P1.12 per kwh in its rates.

"The report on overbilling is nothing new to Malacañang," Reyes said in a statement. "The question now is whether (Ms Macapagal) will sit or act on it."

He said the President should order an immediate reduction of Meralco rates as she did with Napocor's on May 8.

"If not, she could at least order a moratorium on the increase of electricity rates," he said.

In the House of Representatives, Assistant Minority Leader Gilbert Remulla warned of an outbreak of violence if Meralco failed to refute the allegation that it was overbilling consumers.

Elpi Cuna, Meralco director for corporate communications, said the report was nothing new. "This is just a rehash of reports in 1998 that we were 'overcharging' our customers."

The Energy Regulatory Board, the precursor of the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC), ordered Meralco in 1998 to refund its customers about

TELL/A20

Power firms padding PPA, says Gloria

By Dona Pazzibugan

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday admitted that certain power firms had been padding their purchased power adjustment charges, including items in the controversial cost-recovery mechanism that are not even related to generating or distributing electricity.

Even charity expenses have been included in the PPA, the President said in her weekly radio interview, carried nationwide. She did not say which firms she referred to, however.

Ms Macapagal maintained that the PPA could be brought down to P0.40 per kilowatt-hour, from the present P3.25/kwh. Energy Secretary Vincent Perez Jr. came up with the amount, she said, after finding out that many PPA items were no longer directly connected to the cost of electricity.

"For example, let's say they spent on a hospital to improve it. That's charity. They can't charge it to the PPA anymore," the President said.

"I'm talking about a power corporation or a power distributor who would spend on a hospital or (a charity) foun-

POWER/A20

Flight 387 memorial to be unveiled

By Grace Cantal-Albasin
PDI Mindanao Bureau

CLAVERIA, Misamis Oriental—More than four years after Cebu Pacific Flight 387 slammed into Mt. Sumagaya, a P7-million shrine in memory of the 104 passengers and crew who died in the accident is about to be unveiled.

The shrine is located at the foot of Mt. Sumagaya, where many relatives of the crash victims went during the first days of the search and rescue operation.

Dorothy Jean Pabayo, Department of Tourism director for Northern Mindanao, said the shrine was intended, not to remind people of the Feb. 2, 1998 crash, but to "cherish the memories that they (the victims) left us behind."

In a DOT-kind of twist, however, Pabayo said the site would be named the "Wildflower Sanctuary."

FLIGHT/A20

Military appeals for trust, says Abu problem 95% solved

By Julie S. Alipala
PDI Mindanao Bureau

"PLEASE trust us, we are doing our best," said Maj. Gen. Ernesto Carolina, chief of the Armed Forces' Southern Command. "Please understand us. It is not an easy job. We need the support of the people."

Maj. Richard Sater, spokesperson of the RP-US Combined Information Bureau, said both Philippine and US troops were involved in the effort to rescue Martin and Gracia Burnham. But he was quick to say that the American troops' participation was to "train, advise and assist our counterparts in their fight against the local terrorists."

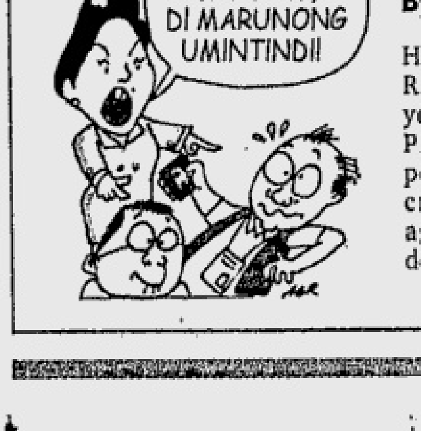
"We grieve for the families of the hostages," Sater said. "They are on our minds today, but we are assured that the AFP, in its efforts, is doing its best to rescue the hostages. We are also doing our effort here to support the Filipino soldiers through training."

In Manila, Lt. Col. Jose Mabanta, chief of the military's public affairs office, said the Abu Sayyaf had managed to elude government troops because of its "small number."

"The strength of the Abu Sayyaf has gone down from 600 to 60," he said. "This small strength has kept us from being able to encounter the enemy."

Mabanta also cited the large

MILITARY/A20


IKAW, SUSPEK KA! IKAW, DI MARUNONG UMINTINDI!

GMA unsettles journalists

By Carlito Pablo

HE DID not know what hit him. Radio journalist Rey Bayoging yesterday tried to unsettle the President by reminding her point-blank of her promise to crush the Abu Sayyaf a year ago. Instead, it was the President who did the unsettling.

Bayoging, station manager of the Zamboanga City-based Radyo Agong of the Radio Mindanao Network, asked President Macapagal-Arroyo during her nationwide radio interview about her pledge to crush the bandits and whether—with American missionaries Martin and Gracia Burnham

GMA/A6

Wycoco traces 'white paper' to Lacson camp

By Philip C. Tubeza

SHORT of naming names, National Bureau of Investigation Director Reynaldo Wycoco yesterday said the camp of Sen. Panfilo Lacson was behind an unsigned "white paper" accusing the NBI of pocketing $150,000 from an alleged $1-million ransom for the freedom of US missionaries Martin and Gracia Burnham.

Wycoco denied that the NBI received a single dollar in ransom money from anyone for the Burnhams' release. "The bureau adheres to (the) government's policy of not negotiating with any kidnap-for-ransom group, (much less) with the Abu Sayyaf," he said.

Three other newspapers reported the ransom allegation on their front pages yesterday, the day the Burnhams marked a year as captives of the Abu Sayyaf.

The New Tribes Mission Philippines, to which the Burnhams belong, denied any knowledge of fund-raising activities for the couple's ransom.

The mission maintains a no-ransom policy because it believes that paying ransom will endanger its other missionaries in

WYCOCO/A6

A MARKER in memory of the victims of the Cebu Pacific Flight 387 crash stands in the Wildflower Sanctuary in Haruhay, Claveria, Misamis Oriental. GRACE ALBASIN

ANO KAYA'NG MANGYAYARI? ABANGAN!

Second FRONT PAGE

SC ruling on Kuratong case out today

By Michael Lim Ubac

IF the Supreme Court decides today to reopen the Kuratong Baleleng cases, Justice Secretary Hernando Perez said he will immediately seek the issuance of a warrant of arrest against Sen. Panfilo Lacson, the former police general implicated in the alleged police rubout.

Perez told reporters yesterday that state prosecutors would immediately ask the Quezon City regional trial court to order the arrest of Lacson and 37 others accused of killing 11 Kuratong Baleleng members on Commonwealth Avenue in Quezon City in 1995.

"If ever the Supreme Court will rule favorably on our petition and allow us to continue with the prosecution of the cases, then the first move will be to ask for the issuance of a warrant of arrest, and thereafter, we shall continue with the prosecution of the cases," Perez said.

Besides Lacson, who was elected to the Senate last year, his aides—Chief Supt. Michael Ray Aquino and Cesar Mancao—and other members of the now-defunct Presidential Anti-Crime Commission have also been implicated.

Perez noted that the Supreme Court was scheduled to hand down its verdict on whether to reopen the cases today.

In anticipation of the decision, the Philippine National Police has already started trying to locate policemen included in the list of the accused.

"We have to account for them in case the court needs them. The accounting is a matter of procedure," said Senior Supt. Leonardo Espina, PNP spokesperson.

He said that the Directorate for Personnel under Director Virtus Gil has already started sifting through its records to determine who among the accused are still in the active service and who have retired.

Justices inhibited

Only 13 justices of the 15-member high court will take part in the proceedings, after Associate Justices Jose A.R. Melo and Antonio Carpio inhibited themselves.

Carpio, the first appointee of President Macapagal-Arroyo to the Supreme Court, inhibited himself after Lacson questioned his capacity to rule on the petition impartially. Melo will retire on Wednesday.

Lacson, in an urgent motion last Friday, asked newly appointed Justices Renato Corona and Ma. Alicia Austria-Martinez to inhibit themselves, but Corona and Martinez are expected to participate in the closed-door deliberations.

LACSON

In his petition, the opposition senator claimed that the two magistrates' participation was objectionable, stressing that they did not hear the oral arguments last Feb. 19 on the petition because they assumed their posts only on April 12.

He also claimed that the move to revive the 11 murder cases was part of the administration's "campaign of persecution" against him.

Perez and Dante Jimenez of the Volunteers Against Crime and Corruption (VACC) asked Corona and Martinez not to heed Lacson's request.

Perez said that he could not see the logic why Ms Macapagal's appointees should inhibit themselves from the final deliberations today.

"If that happens, the appointees of former President Joseph Estrada should also inhibit (themselves) . . . but they will not do that . . . that will not happen," Perez said. Lacson is a close associate of Estrada, whom he served at the PACC and then later as PNP chief.

Three of the SC justices hearing the case—Associate Justices Sabino De Leon Jr., Angelina Sandoval-Gutierrez and Consuelo Ynarez-Santiago—were appointed by Estrada.

Jimenez said the high tribunal should ignore Lacson's pleas.

"The SC should decide the petition on its merits based on established laws and the arguments presented by the parties," said Jimenez. He stressed that heeding Lacson's call would set a bad precedent.

He said the SC should not allow the resolution of the petition to be based on a "numbers' game and not on its merits."

Fortun's argument

To block the reopening of the cases, Lacson's lawyer, Sigfrid Fortun, had invoked Section 8, Rule 117 of the Revised Rules of Criminal Procedures, which deals with the two-year prescriptive period for the revival of a given case.

"The state with all its powers did nothing (to revive the cases within the two-year period). Why out of a sudden they (government prosecutors) cry for justice?" Fortun said during the Feb. 19 oral arguments.

He claimed that the state was forever barred from reviving or filing new cases because Section 8, Rule 117 allegedly barred the further prosecution of Lacson after the lapse of the two-year prescriptive period in 2001.

The chief government lawyer, Solicitor General Simeon Marcelo, claimed otherwise.

In an 89-page petition to reverse the Aug. 24, 2001 ruling of the Court of Appeals, which issued a permanent injunction on the 11 murder charges, Marcelo argued that the CA order was unlawful.

He cited three grounds in asking for a reversal of the CA ruling.

First, Marcelo said Lacson himself did not invoke the two-year prescriptive period for reviving the case. Despite this, the CA used the provision to dismiss the cases.

Second, Marcelo said Lacson was guilty of forum shopping since he filed the same petitions before the RTC and the CA.

Third, Marcelo said the CA ruling rested solely on the strength of procedural rules. "But substantive criminal laws cannot be overturned by a procedural rule and . . . the CA misapplied said rule which was intended merely to provide relief to overseas workers seeking clearances required for their work permits."

He said the rule was never intended to prevent the re-filing of the cases when the evidence or amount of the evidence so warrants.

He added that the rule did not cover cases "where no arrest order has been issued, and hence no personal jurisdiction or threat to liberty on the accused has arisen, and in cases where no arraignment or plea has as of yet been had."

The DOJ, upon orders from Perez, decided to reopen the cases early last year when two witnesses—Inspectors Ismael Yu and Abelardo Ramos—surfaced and claimed to have knowledge of the alleged summary executions. ***With reports from TJ Burgonio and Christian Esguerra***

PILOT
HYDRAULIC PALLET TRUCK
• 2.5 ton.....P12,500
• 2.5 ton Low Profile.....P13,500
• 3 ton.....P13,500
• HAND LOWERING CONTROLS 3 POSITIONS LOWER-NEUTRAL-PUMP
• DURABLE HYDRAULICS
• ROBUST CONSTRUCTION
(1 YEAR WARRANTY)

ROTORCOMP
Screw Air Compressor
Made by Bauer of Germany
• Below 2ppm Oil Discharge
• 10 to 600 HP (7 to 13 Bars)
• Tropicalized Cooling System
• 30 % Larger than Standard
• Air Ends w/ Rolling Profile 10 yrs. Warranty
• Steel Tube Piping, no hose connections
• Oil separator & Filter Changed in Minutes

BLOWERS AND VACUUM BOOSTERS
HIGH PERFORMANCE LOW-COST BLOWERS
ANLET'3 Lobes Made in Japan
LONGTECH Made in Taiwan
Applications: Wastewater Treatment, Chemical/Gas Processing, Environmental, Pneumatic Conveying, Industrial, Food Processing and many more.

NITCHI
Lever, Manual & Electric Chain Hoist
• 1 Ton to 10 Tons Lift Capacity
• Extra Load & Hand Chain Available
• Plain, Geared and Motorized Trolley
• 220 Volts / 3Ph / 60 Hz Supply

VICTOR HARDWARE
667-669 G. Araneta Ave., Quezon City, Philippines
Tel.: (632) 743-6701 • Fax: 743-4587 & 732-6169
E-mail: victorhardware@i-manila.com.ph

FURNITURE
SUMMER CLEARANCE SALE
UPTO 70% OFF ON SELECTED ITEMS
MAY 1 TO 31, 2002
2-DOOR WARDROBE CABINET (SH-C)
BABY WARDROBE CABINET (Y 1600)
BOOK Cabinet 30Y 48Y 55Y
ENTERTAINMENT CENTER (SH2003-ES)
OFFICE TABLE with side drawers (424)
STUDY TABLE w/ LIGHT (AST 30)
CHAIR (ZF035)
FOUR SEATER DINING SET STARTER (10PE-3048CT)
EXECUTIVE CHAIR (F2070H)
SINGLE BED FRAME ES4004
COMPUTER TABLE (SH-ART2)
Quirino Hi-way • 7-11 Store • Tandang Sora • Congressional Ave. • KFC
AMITY
#62 Banlat Rd., Tandang Sora, Q.C. Tel. Nos. 930-9801 • 939-4226
PER DTI-NCR PERMIT # A3-294. SERIES OF 2002

RP bids to be struck off money laundering list

THE COUNTRY'S top finance and justice officials are to meet with the Paris-based Financial Action Task Force (FATF) in a bid to be removed the Philippines from a list of money laundering havens.

Rafael Buenaventura, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas governor, said Philippine officials sought the meeting with the FATF following the discovery of six more bank accounts suspected of containing laundered money in the country.

He said the BSP earlier ordered the "freezing" of five bank accounts worth a total of P45 million. The accounts have dubious sources, he added.

Buenaventura said the discovery of the 11 questionable accounts showed that the country was serious in its drive against money laundering.

A Philippine delegation will go to Brisbane, Australia next week to convince the FATF to remove the country from its list of money laundering havens, said Buenaventura.

The team would report the freezing of the five suspicious accounts and the close monitoring of six more.

"Hopefully, this will convince the FATF that our law here is working," said Buenaventura.

The delegation will plead its case again at a meeting of the FATF Asia-Pacific review body. The delegation includes Sen. Francis Pangilinan and Lilia Bautista, chair of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Aside from the Philippines, the FATF list includes 18 "non-cooperative countries and territories" in the international fight against money laundering.

Among the non-cooperative countries and territories were the Cook Islands, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, Grenada, Guatemala, Hungary, Indonesia, Israel, Lebanon, the Marshall Islands, Myanmar, Nauru, Nigeria, Niue, Russia, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Ukraine.

Michael Lim Ubac

INDUSTRIAL FAN
P3,750
26" Diameter Heavyduty
Swivel Head : 0 to 90
3-speed adjustment
Tripod Type 5D
Cross Base 5D
Sole Distributor: COLENT ENT. Suite 200 2/F. Del Monte Mansion Bldg., Del Monte Ave. cor. Speaker Perez St., Q.C. Tels. 7403815, 4117157
411-2395 to 98, 4124317, 411-7157, 414-9890 Fax 4112396

LET US TAKE YOUR (BAD) BREATH AWAY!
Regain the confidence taken away by bad breath. Our clinic offers safe, sure and discreet solution to this problem.
We have a unique bacteria locator, the HALIMETER apparatus complemented by the most effective patented medication and treatment.
Succeeding treatments are FREE!
Also Available: Teeth Bleaching • Dental Clinic For Lease/Sharing
Suite #224 Atrium Bldg., Makati Ave., Makati City
Tel. No. 811-4071 • 752-4735

Police resume hunt for Cardeño

A QUEZON CITY court gave the go-signal for police to resume their hunt for fugitive Supt. Rafael Cardeño, who was charged with masterminding the murder of government informant Baron Cervantes.

"If he's (Cardeño) seen (in public), he will be arrested," said Deputy Director General Hermogenes Ebdane Jr., chief of the National Anti-Crime Commission Anti-KFR Task Force.

Ebdane's team arrested two men whom police said were involved in the murder of Cervantes. One of the men was suspected to be the gunman and the other, his accessory.

Regional Trial Court Judge Lydia Querubin-Layosa on Friday denied Cardeño's petition for an extension of a temporary restraining order against the manhunt on "insufficient grounds."

Another judge had granted his petition for a three-day TRO against the manhunt on Thursday.

Police filed murder charges against Cardeño and seven others before the Department of Justice on Friday for their alleged participation in the killing of Cervantes. ***TJ Burgonio***

Mix Business and Pleasure
• OPERATE YOUR OWN TRAVEL AGENCY
• BE OUR AFFILIATE
• JOIN OUR AFFILIATION PROGRAM
Credit Line & Financing Available
HARVEST CONSULTANCY & TRAINING
2F, 157, Torres Bldg., Buendia Ave., Near cor. Harrison, Pasay City • Telefax # 831-7781
Call/Text @ #: (0917) 6434496

RICOH COPIER
• WE TRANSACT 24 HRS/DAY FROM MONDAY TO SUNDAY
LIQUID TYPE P11,500 only
POWDER TYPE P15,000 only
Bond Paper P65 / rm • Dispersant P42 / lit • U.S. SP. Toner P260 / tn
Tels. 716-6110 • 780-0302 • 780-0304 • 780-4015
(INFRONT OF PUP ENGINEERING & ARCHITECTURE BLDG.)
AUTHORIZED DEALERS:
LUZON: [illegible]
VISAYAS: [illegible]
MINDANAO: [illegible]

LAFAYETTE PHARMACEUTICAL LABORATORIES, INC.
"Quality is our Best Policy"
QUALITY GENERICS AT VERY COMPETITIVE PRICES
We Welcome Distributors, Wholesalers and Retailers Nationwide
FOR INQUIRIES PLS. CALL
LAFAYETTE PHARMACEUTICALS
#132 13th Avenue Cubao, Q.C.
Tel.No.: 437-5139 / 913-3724
911 - 7292 / Telefax: 913-3723

100% Brand New & Recon COPIERS
RICOH • Canon • Olivetti • Savin
P14,999. ONLY LIQUID TYPE Best For Business/ Copy Center
P14,999. ONLY POWDER TYPE FT 3320 For Personal/ Office Use
SALE!
P43,999. ONLY BRAND NEW DIGITAL COPIER • PRINTER
Guaranteed Big Savings !!! Katun TONERS & PARTS For Use in SHARP, MITA, CANON RISO, TOSHIBA, MINOLTA, ETC.
Also Available. *Lease to Own/ Rental/ Trade- In * Repair of most Copier Brands * Ink for all Computer Printers
COPYTRADE
Copytrade Bldg. 930 M/ Jhocson St. Sampaloc, Manila (fr. NU)
Tels. 749-8155 to 56
781-3472 • 749-8216
Prov'l Outlets: Cebu: (032)2532402 Cabanatuan City (0919)4673223 Tarlac: (0918)-5738497

RESERVED
SECURE YOUR PLACE AT MONASH, ONE OF AUSTRALIA'S TOP UNIVERSITIES.

Monash College guarantees your entry into second year of selected Monash University degrees.
To find out more attend the IDP Exhibition, 31 May-1 June at the Dusit Hotel Nikko.
Contact IDP for more information, telephone 816 0755 or 7546 281/277/230/229, or visit www.monash.edu.au/intoff/mcollege.
MONASH UNIVERSITY
Provider No. 00008C

Accords to be implemented despite objections—GMA

By Carlito Pablo

READ her lips: The two interim agreements signed by back-channel negotiator Norberto Gonzales with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front will be implemented despite objections by some lawmakers.

Barely concealing her irritation, President Macapagal-Arroyo said that only upon the implementation of the May 6 and 7 accords would she be ready to resume formal peace negotiations with the MILF.

"I want the people and some government officials opposing or doubting these agreements to see clearly that . . . there is really nothing to fear from them," she said yesterday in her radio interview aired nationwide.

Gonzales said last week that the agreements constituted confidence-building measures that would pave the way for the resumption of peace talks with the secessionist group.

The President noted that hearings on the two agreements were being conducted in Congress "in order to clarify matters," but that "all their attacks are based on their own conjecture."

"Being unclear about one thing and being opposed to it are two different things," she said, but added that she was not aware if certain lawmakers were indeed opposing the agreements.

She also said it was the government that was responsible for the implementation of the agreements, which, she pointed out, should not be construed as "bilateral" in character, like the accords entered into by two sovereign nations.

Authority

"The implementing authority is the government of the Philippines," the President said, apparently referring to the May 7 accord that provides for the rehabilitation of war-ravaged Moro communities.

The other agreement, signed on May 6, guarantees MILF cooperation with the military and police in the campaign against criminal gangs, particularly kidnap-for-ransom groups.

Reiterating what her officials had said earlier, Ms Macapagal stressed that the agreements did not provide for the return to the MILF of more than 40 camps captured by the military in 2000.

"I've been in office for one-and-a-half years. Was there any camp we returned?" she demanded.

The President also noted that the rehabilitation of destroyed Moro communities was in fact "almost a *fait accompli*" because the government had been rebuilding these areas.

However, Senate Minority Floor Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. said Gonzales' authority to commit the government to any agreement with the MILF was "unclear."

Pimentel said in a statement that Gonzales should not have signed the interim agreements because the government had a peace panel chaired by Jesus Dureza to discharge that function.

He said the peace panel should now take over from Gonzales.

Pimentel also said the objections of certain lawmakers to the interim agreements and their demand that these should be renegotiated were bound to elicit a negative reaction from the MILF.

"What will the MILF say now—that the government is not serious in the peace negotiations? The whole negotiation process is being imperiled," he said.

According to Pimentel, what is happening is "bad for the country, bad for the MILF and bad for the peace process."

Earlier, the opposition senator said the interim agreements were lacking in substance. He assailed the administration for using what he called a "tribalized" approach to the Mindanao problem, and said the only solution he envisioned was the formation of a Bangsamoro federal state.

Sayyaf man tags Alghazie

GENERAL SANTOS CITY—An Abu Sayyaf leader has confirmed that Ustadz Noor Muhammad Umog is the real Abu Muslim Alghazie, the alleged head of the bandits' special operations group.

Salip Abdullah, alias Commander Sukarno Habib Yasin, who claimed to be a pioneering member of the Abu Sayyaf, admitted that he personally knew and met Umog when they were still operating in Basilan.

Police arrested Abdullah during a raid in Barangay Labangal here on May 9. The suspect is facing 61 criminal cases in Basilan and Jolo, and was among those blamed for a spate of bombings here and in Tacurong and Cotabato cities.

"I knew him as one of the leaders of the Abu Sayyaf special operations group," Abdullah, who is detained at the regional police headquarters, said when Umog was shown to him.

Umog's group had been involved in a series of kidnapping, bombing and extortion activities in Basilan and Jolo, Abdullah said. ***Aquiles Z. Zonio, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

ASIAN PACKAGES
HONG KONG 4D/3N $260
BANGKOK 4D/3N $255
SINGAPORE 4D/3N $305
TICKET ONLY (ROUND TRIP)

Hong Kong	$220	Seoul	$415	New York	$945
Bangkok	$250	Sydney	$685	Vancouver	$855
Singapore	$275	Tokyo	$480	Toronto	$965
Taipei	$345	LAX	$830	Europe	$790
		SFO	$850		

FLIGHT INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL & TOURS
Rm. 202 Doña Mercedes Bldg., San Andres St., Malate, Manila
Tel. Nos.: 536-9390 • 400-5017 • 404-2043
Telefax: 536-9390 Cell Nos.: 0916-4488547 • 0918-8960461
E-mail Address: flight1@info.com.ph

We fix all computer problems!
Expert in VIRUS Removal
PCMed TECHNICIANS
CALL OUR HOTLINE 303-8888
☑ ON-SITE ☑ FAST ☑ EXPERIENCED ☑ GUARANTEED ☑ AFFORDABLE

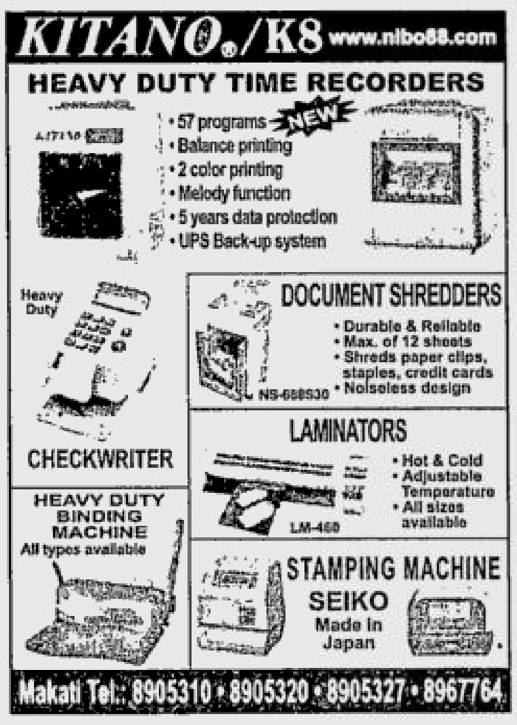
Begin a new life
Cure your bad breath
No need to consult with medical experts. The cause of bad breath has been diagnosed and pinpointed.
Therabreath™ System is the solution to the problem. It is guaranteed to cure *bad breath, bitter/sour taste, phlegm in throat, pasty saliva, awful morning breath.*
Free Delivery w/in Metro Mla:- Moneyback Guarantee
Call: Norville Fresh Breatheraphy Center
890-8380; 895-5532; 895-6775

GENERICS FACTORY PRICE
CASH, No Minimum Order, Money Back Guarantee
MARCH 8, 2002

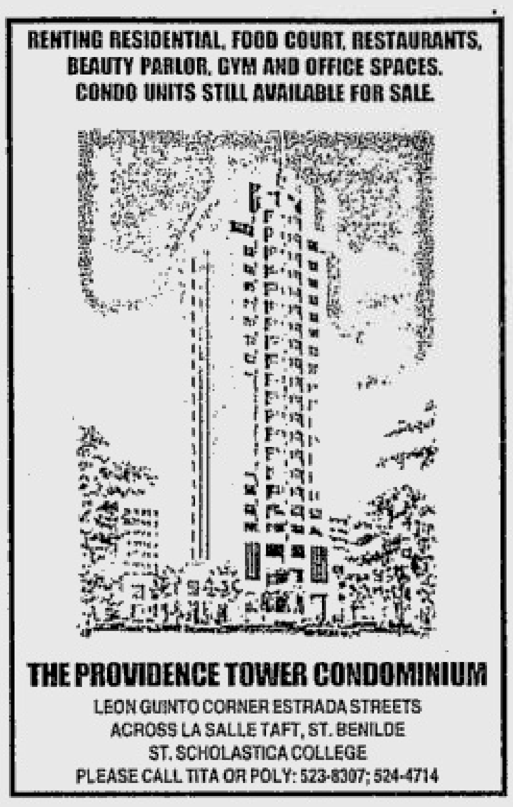
Amoxicillin cap 500 mg	Box of 100's	P 180.00
Carbocisteine cap 500 mg	Box of 100's	113.00
Cephalexin cap 500 mg	Box of 100's	354.00
Cloxacillin cap 500 mg	Box of 100's	225.00
Co-trimoxazole cap (400/80mg)	Box of 100's	98.00
Co-trimoxazole susp.(200/40mg)	Bot. of 60 ml	12.50
Mefenamic Acid cap 500 mg	Box of 100's	96.00
Multi-Vitamin Cap	Box of 100's	93.00
Multi-Vitamin Syrup	Bot. of 60 ml	15.40
Paracetamol syrup 250mg/5ml	Bot. of 60 ml	12.50
Paracetamol tab 500 mg	Box of 100's	31.00
Salbutamol tab 2 mg	Box of 100's	37.00
Vitamin E Cap 400 I.U. (USA)	Bot. of 500's	1,250.00

CNN GENERICS, R-210 L C Bldg., 459 Quezon Ave., Quezon City
Tel. Nos. 410-1337;410-1868 Fax 410-5216 E-mail: lowprice@cnn-generics.com
More products available at website: www.cnn-generics.com
DEALERS & DISTRIBUTORS ARE WELCOME

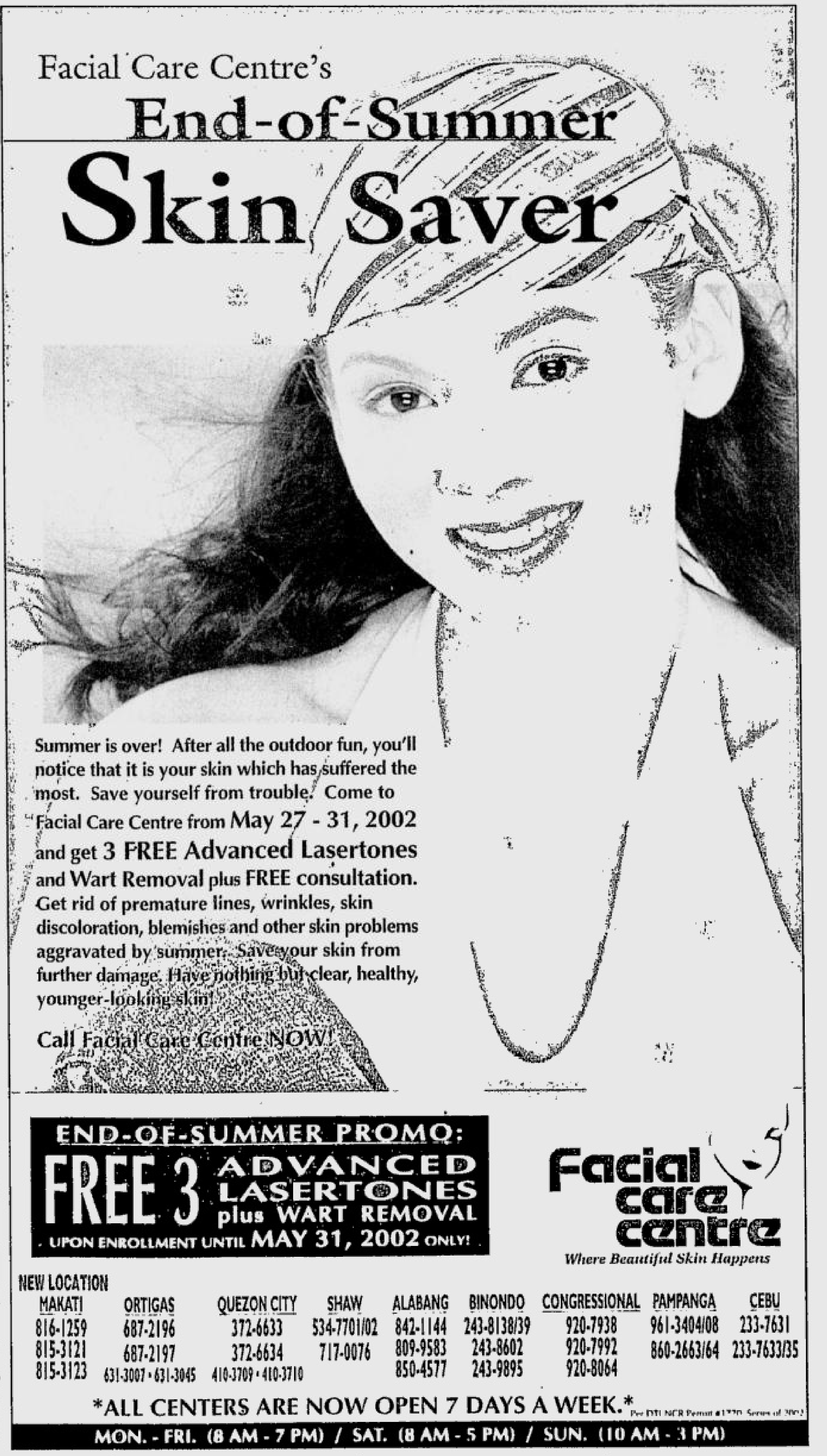
A Heart Attack Is FATAL
BE READY IF IT STRIKES!
•Handy and Portable
•Ideal for travel
•Imported from U.S.A.
OXYLITE PORTABLE OXYGEN
[fareastmedical.net]
STAR MILLS PAMPANGA 2nd Floor
SM MANILA 5TH Floor 484-1471
FAR EAST MEDICAL EQUIPMENT
SM MEGAMALL 5th Flr., Bldg. A 635-04-36
SM FAIRVIEW Basement 418-75-40
SM NORTH EDSA Car Park Plaza 453 3326
SM SOUTHMALL Basement 800 40-93
ROBINSONS GALLERIA Basement 635-5061
CEBU 262-32-39


KITANO®/K8 www.nibo88.com
HEAVY DUTY TIME RECORDERS
• 57 programs NEW
• Balance printing
• 2 color printing
• Melody function
• 5 years data protection
• UPS Back-up system
Heavy Duty CHECKWRITER
DOCUMENT SHREDDERS
• Durable & Reliable
• Max. of 12 sheets
• Shreds paper clips, staples, credit cards
• Noiseless design
NS-688S30
LAMINATORS
• Hot & Cold
• Adjustable Temperature
• All sizes available
LM-460
HEAVY DUTY BINDING MACHINE
All types available
STAMPING MACHINE
SEIKO Made in Japan
Makati Tel.: 8905310 • 8905320 • 8905327 • 8967764

PC BODEGA 12A Doña Juana Rodriguez New Manila Q.C 721-4482 / 721-4582 / 724-7905 / 724-7819
Now we have two more outlets to serve you !!!
PC DEPOT Sta. Lucia East Grand Mall 682-8618 / 682-8619
Viramall Shopping Center 725-8519 / 725-8792
Guaranteed Best Price & All Brand New Components !!!
P4 INTIMIDATOR ▶▶Pentium 4 1.6 GHz
128MB MEMORY, 40GB HardDisk
Built-in 32MB Savage Pro, 32bit Audio,
60X CD-Drive, 1.44MB FDD, ATXCase
14" Colored Monitor, 56K Modem
500W AVR, 180W SPKer
"INTERNET READY" P22,800
PCB ELECTRON ▶▶AMD Duron 1 GHz
128MB MEMORY, Video Accelerator
20GB HardDisk, 32bit Audio,
60X CD-Drive, 1.44MB FDD, ATXCase
14" Colored Monitor, 56K Modem
500W AVR, 180W SPKer
"INTERNET READY" P16,900
PCB SMALL OFFICE ▶▶Celeron 1.1 Ghz
128MB MEMORY, Video Accelerator
40GB HardDisk, 32bit Audio,
52X CD-Drive, 1.44MB FDD, ATXCase
14" Colored Monitor, 56K Modem
500W AVR, 180W SPKer
"INTERNET READY" P18,000
More PC Packages are available and also in Black Color
The Best CD-Drive Ever!
SONY CDRW 24x10x40 - 5,350
DVD 16x48 - 3,350
Seagate HARDISK 40GB 5400rpm – 3,550
7200rpm – 4,250
www.pcbodega.com.ph ◀ Order Online !!!

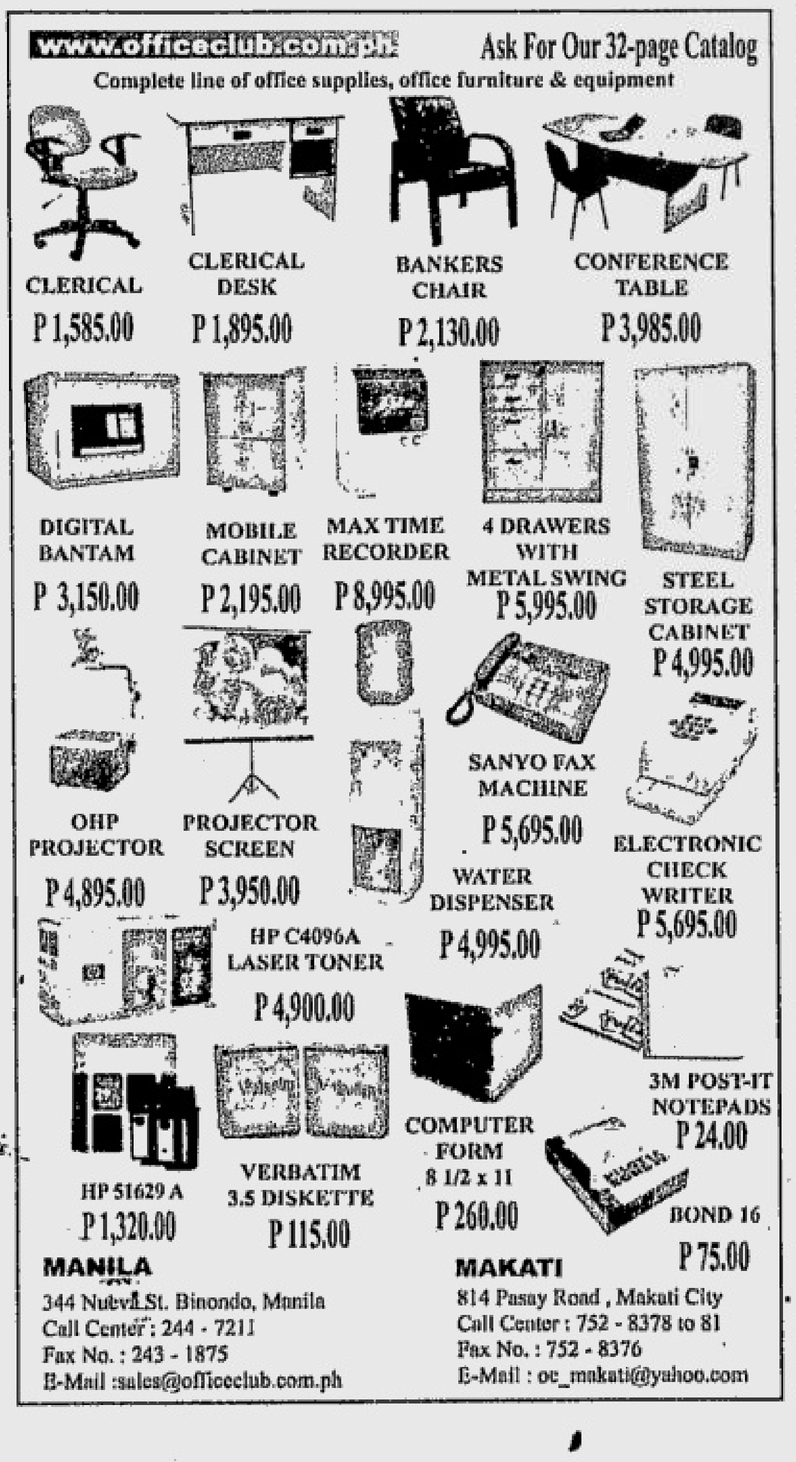

RENTING RESIDENTIAL, FOOD COURT, RESTAURANTS, BEAUTY PARLOR, GYM AND OFFICE SPACES.
CONDO UNITS STILL AVAILABLE FOR SALE.
THE PROVIDENCE TOWER CONDOMINIUM
LEON GUINTO CORNER ESTRADA STREETS
ACROSS LA SALLE TAFT, ST. BENILDE
ST. SCHOLASTICA COLLEGE
PLEASE CALL TITA OR POLY: 523-8307; 524-4714

Best-Performing, Heavy-Duty Industrial Vacuum Cleaners
NO.1 in VACUUMS & HIGH PRESSURE CLEANERS
Competitor
Industrial 50x
Nevada
Major Credit Cards Accepted. Deferred Payments Up To 24 Mos.
With AFTER SALES SERVICE
FREE DELIVERY within Metro Manila
Exclusively Distributed by:
CLEANCITY COMMERCIAL, INC.
Accepts Repair of all Kinds of High-pressure Washers & Vacuum Cleaners.
MAIN OFFICE: 1851 M. OROSA ST., MALATE, MLA.
Tel. Nos.: 5244472 • 5240529 • 5245290
Nextel: 49888 • Globe: 0917-7896670
Smart: 0918-5367577
QUEZON CITY BRANCHES:
• 646 QUEZON AVE. Tel. 7490581 • 7493709
• 162 DEL MONTE AVE. NR. COR. ROOSEVELT AVE
Tel. 4101086 • 3724429


Facial Care Centre's
End-of-Summer
Skin Saver
Summer is over! After all the outdoor fun, you'll notice that it is your skin which has suffered the most. Save yourself from trouble. Come to Facial Care Centre from May 27 - 31, 2002 and get 3 FREE Advanced Lasertones and Wart Removal plus FREE consultation. Get rid of premature lines, wrinkles, skin discoloration, blemishes and other skin problems aggravated by summer. Save your skin from further damage. Have nothing but clear, healthy, younger-looking skin!
Call Facial Care Centre NOW!
END-OF-SUMMER PROMO:
FREE 3 ADVANCED LASERTONES plus WART REMOVAL
UPON ENROLLMENT UNTIL MAY 31, 2002 ONLY!
Facial care centre
Where Beautiful Skin Happens
NEW LOCATION

MAKATI	ORTIGAS	QUEZON CITY	SHAW	ALABANG	BINONDO	CONGRESSIONAL	PAMPANGA	CEBU
816-1259	687-2196	372-6633	534-7701/02	842-1144	243-8138/39	920-7938	961-3404/08	233-7631
815-3121	687-2197	372-6634	717-0076	809-9583	243-8602	920-7992	860-2663/64	233-7633/35
815-3123	631-3007 • 631-3045	410-3709 • 410-3710		850-4577	243-9895	920-8064		

ALL CENTERS ARE NOW OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK.
MON. - FRI. (8 AM - 7 PM) / SAT. (8 AM - 5 PM) / SUN. (10 AM - 3 PM)


www.officeclub.com.ph Ask For Our 32-page Catalog
Complete line of office supplies, office furniture & equipment
CLERICAL P 1,585.00
CLERICAL DESK P 1,895.00
BANKERS CHAIR P 2,130.00
CONFERENCE TABLE P 3,985.00
DIGITAL BANTAM P 3,150.00
MOBILE CABINET P 2,195.00
MAX TIME RECORDER P 8,995.00
4 DRAWERS WITH METAL SWING P 5,995.00
STEEL STORAGE CABINET P 4,995.00
OHP PROJECTOR P 4,895.00
PROJECTOR SCREEN P 3,950.00
SANYO FAX MACHINE P 5,695.00
WATER DISPENSER P 4,995.00
ELECTRONIC CHECK WRITER P 5,695.00
HP C4096A LASER TONER P 4,900.00
3M POST-IT NOTEPADS P 24.00
HP 51629 A P 1,320.00
VERBATIM 3.5 DISKETTE P 115.00
COMPUTER FORM 8 1/2 x 11 P 260.00
BOND 16 P 75.00
MANILA
344 Nueva St. Binondo, Manila
Call Center : 244 - 7211
Fax No. : 243 - 1875
E-Mail :sales@officeclub.com.ph
MAKATI
814 Pasay Road , Makati City
Call Center : 752 - 8378 to 81
Fax No. : 752 - 8376
E-Mail : oc_makati@yahoo.com

Erap camp presents 'errand girl' of Dichaves

ORTALIZA

By Volt Contreras

THE CAMP of Joseph Estrada yesterday presented a woman who claimed she was simultaneously a member of the household staff of the deposed President and a P20,000-a-month errand girl for his crony Jaime Dichaves.

It was yet another bid outside the courtroom to prove that Estrada and "Velarde" are not the same person.

Prosecution witnesses in the former president's plunder trial have pointed to Lucena "Baby" Ortaliza as having represented Estrada with Security Bank Corp., and "Jose Velarde" with Equitable-PCIBank.

Estrada is accused of having maintained a secret bank account using the alias "Velarde" to conceal some P3.2 billion in ill-gotten wealth.

As expected, Ortaliza, 49, maintained that the "Velarde" account was opened and owned by Dichaves, Estrada's businessman friend who has fled the country and, later, was also charged in the plunder case.

In an interview arranged by Estrada's media handlers at Club Filipino, Ortaliza, a seaman's wife and mother of six, broke into tears over her being dragged into the mess.

Currently employed in an Estrada-owned real estate firm, Ortaliza said she came out in the open after Ombudsman Aniano Desierto announced that state prosecutors might include her in the plunder charges.

Ortaliza did not deny earlier allegations that she represented both Estrada and "Velarde" in several bank transactions, including multimillion-peso check deposits at EPCIB's Greenhills-Ortigas branch.

She said this was because when she was working under the Office of the President as part of Estrada's Polk Street residence staff, Dichaves also started engaging her services. This was in July 1999. Hence, it appeared that she held two jobs until Estrada's ouster in January 2001.

Ortaliza faced the press without a lawyer but with a prepared statement in Pilipino.

The statement said she met Dichaves at Estrada's Polk Street residence. Dichaves asked if she could run bank errands for him, as she did for Estrada. She was given P20,000 a month for the job.

Asked for proof of her arrangement with Dichaves, Ortaliza said she was hired verbally, but that she kept "petty cash vouchers."

In August 1999, Ortaliza's statement said, Dichaves sent her to Equitable-Binondo, where Senior Vice President Romualdo Dy Tang gave her three blank signature cards and a deposit slip for her new employer to accomplish.

Ortaliza said she returned to Dichavez's house in the Corinthian Gardens, where she "saw him sign the papers as 'Jose Velarde.'"

A few days later, Ortaliza said Dichaves sent her to deposit some checks in the Binondo branch. She said she was allowed to make succeeding deposits at the Greenhills branch to avoid heavy traffic and to cut clearing time.

In January 2000, Tang sent Dichaves new signature cards. Again, Ortaliza said, "I was right next to Sir Jaime when he signed the cards as 'Jose Velarde'."

Her statement ended with an appeal to Desierto not to have her jailed because "I'm just a lowly person with six children."

Cut this Ad worth 1 FREE YoYo Balloon Coffee Mug

BALLOON BUSINESS!

- WORKSHOP SKED.: EVERY WED. or SAT.
- RESERVATION REQUIRED
- WITH FREE 2 YOYO BALLOONS!

C.B.E. YoYo Balloons (Located at SM Supermalls) ENTRANCE DECOR

ONLY P22,500.00 INITIAL CAPITAL AND YOU CAN START YOUR OWN BALLOON BUSINESS RIGHT AWAY!

INCLUDES:
- Starter Kit: 1,000 + Imported U.S. Balloons (Different Sizes, Colors & Shapes)
- Balloon Pumps, (BIG AND SMALL)
- Balloon Printing Set
- Balloon Sticks and Cups, Clip Sticks
- Giant Balloon Drop Bags w/ Balloons
- Training Workshop Conducted by U.S. Trained Balloon Experts
- Certificate, Free Lunch and Snack
- Pictures, Brochures and more
- Practicum at 5 Star Hotel or other venues

OPTIONAL: Imported Electric Inflator P7,500.00 each

SALE! - 11" Rnd. U.S.A PRL. Balloons (P4.50 each) - 5" Rnd. U.S.A STD. Balloons (P 1.95 each)

WE WILL SHOW YOU HOW WITH OUR FREE WORKSHOP!

SUBMIT THIS AD WHEN YOU PAY AND WE WILL GIVE YOU FREE 1 YOYO BALLOON COFFEE MUG.

Call or Visit: YOYO BALLOONS 10-D Xavierville Avenue, Loyola Heights, Quezon City, Philippines Tel. Nos.: 922-5543 • 426-2973 920-1440 • Fax No.: 922-0068

YOU CAN USE YOUR OWN TRADE NAME! NO NEED TO PAY ANY FRANCHISE FEE!

VALID UNTIL 29 JUNE 2002

THIS ADVERTISEMENT APPEARS EVERY TUESDAY

Cut this ad & exchange for 2 pcs. YoYo Balloons when you enroll

MUG/PLATE PRINTING BUSINESS!!!
NO BIG CAPITAL REQUIRED!

Wonderful BALLOONS

HANDS-ON TRAINING ON HOW TO TRANSFER PHOTOS, COMPANY LOGOS AND OTHER DESIGNS ON COFFEE MUGS AND PLATES AS SOUVENIRS OR GIFTS TO YOUR FRIENDS AND CLIENTS - START YOUR OWN SOUVENIR/GIFT ITEM BUSINESS RIGHT AWAY WITH FREE MATERIALS!

(Mugs, Transfer Solution and Transfer Papers)

FOR RESERVATION/CONFIRMATION, CALL: 426-2973; 922-5543; 433-2500

PLACE: YoYo BALLOONS SHOP 10-D Xavierville Ave., Loyola Heights, Quezon City - near Ateneo, Katipunan

SCHEDULE: (SUN., MON., WED., & SAT.) SUNDAYS 10:00 AM-12:00 Noon -w/Free Snack MONDAYS 3:00 PM-5:00 PM -w/Free Snack WED. & SAT. 1:00 PM-3:00 PM -w/Free Snack

PARTICIPATION FEE- P5,500.00 only per participant VALID UNTIL 30 JUNE 2002

CERTIFICATE awarded at end of workshop

THIS ADVERTISEMENT APPEARS EVERY TUESDAY

Microsoft CERTIFIED Systems Administrator

ORIGINAL FEE: P 70,950.00
NOW ONLY: P 58,500.00
PayLite INSTALLMENT PLAN

THE NEW CERTIFICATION PROGRAM FROM MICROSOFT.
Train yourself now & be one of the first MCSA's in the country!

Enrollment ends: June 14, 2002
Classes begin: June 24, 2002

Details: www.eduproinc.com/direct/promo_mcsa.htm
Call: 867-4409, 759-6834 to 38. Email: NEWSAD@EDUPROINC.COM

eDUPRO, INC. Net Age. Net Skills.

FRIENDSHIP HOSPITAL

VAL HANDUMON

President Macapagal-Arroyo is greeted by children as she arrives to keynote the endorsement ceremonies of the Korea-Philippines Friendship Hospital in Trece Martires City in Cavite.

GMA supports clamor to abolish SK units

By Dona Pazzibugan

THE ABOLITION of the Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) is a good idea, President Macapagal-Arroyo said yesterday, but "it's up to Congress."

Speaking during her weekly radio interview, the President said the funds made available to the SK could be put to better use. Besides, she said, the youth should concentrate on their studies.

Several lawmakers proposed the abolition of the youth council following the low turnout in the SK registration last May 21 and 22.

Since the young people no longer seemed interested in the SK elections set for July 15, Ms Macapagal said, "the barangay councils can use the (SK) funds for much needed farm-to-market roads instead."

The SK automatically gets 10 percent of the internal revenue allotment (IRA) of local government units.

"The primary job of the youth is to study," Ms Macapagal stressed, adding that young people could join school student councils if they wanted to learn governance.

Senate Minority Floor Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. said the low registration turnout was a valid ground to scrap the SK. He observed that SK units in rural towns tended to become idle, anyway, because their elected officials went to school in Metro Manila and other urban centers.

Still, he warned that the proposed abolition should be studied carefully because of its "serious implications," including loss of youth representation in the barangay, municipal or city council, provincial and other agencies or organizations established by law.

Pimentel said Congress did not have enough time to approve a law to scrap SK before the final adjournment of Congress on June 7. However, he assured, low turnout in the July polls would leave the House "no other choice."

The SK was patterned after the Kabataang Barangay (KB) instituted by former President Ferdinand Marcos during martial law and led by his daughter Imee Marcos as national chair. When Marcos was ousted in 1986, the KB was scrapped.

Congress revived it in 1992 under a different name, SK, but with the same aim to get the youth involved in politics.

Protestants review ministerial code to fight sex abuses

BAGUIO CITY—The Protestant Church in the country will review its ministerial code of ethics to guard against sexual abuse of women and children in its communities, and is urging the Catholic Church to do the same.

The review was decided in the 7th quadrennial general assembly of the United Church of Christ in the Philippines (UCCP) held recently at the Teachers' Camp here.

About 500 Protestant bishops, ministers and pastors participated. The UCCP has 1,753 churches in the country.

Bishop Allan Ray Sarte, head of the North Luzon Jurisdiction, said UCCP officials' resolution cited the recent exposés on sex scandals involving Catholic priests and nuns.

"Church people should be careful and professional in carrying out their work," Sarte said. The code of ethics prescribes "gender equalization," with provisions that guide church workers in their working relationships with the opposite sex.

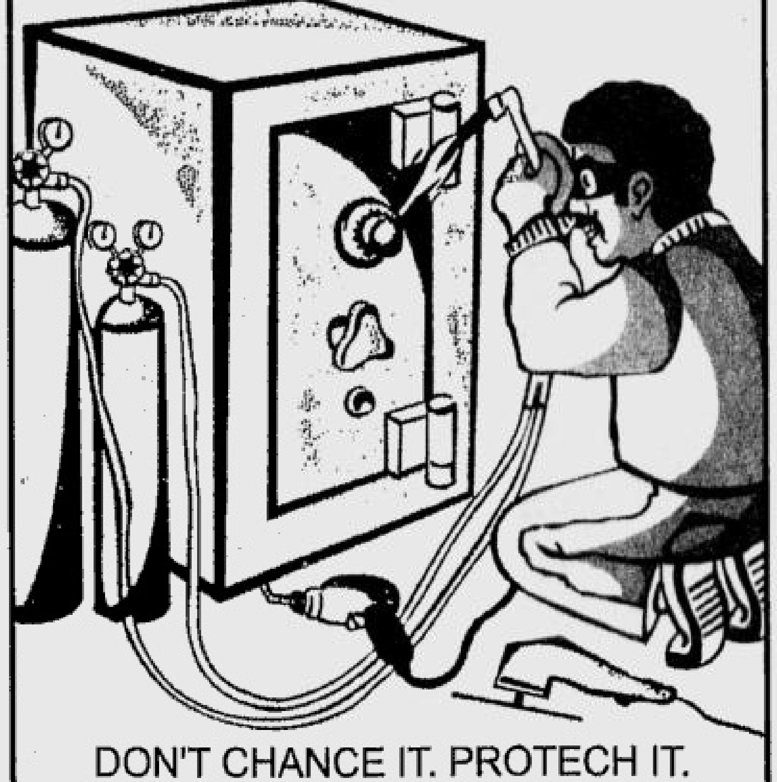
"We are committed to protect the dignity of every human being, especially women," UCCP Bishop Emeritus Gabriel Girol said in a press forum. "Irreverence towards women is an issue that we take very seriously."

Girol said it was the UCCP that first recognized a woman as head when, in 1998, the late Melinda Primavera-Briones was elected bishop, making her the first woman bishop in Asia as well.

Sarte urged the Catholic Church to review its own policies, especially the vow of celibacy. It should not evade the issue of human sexuality, he said.

The Philippines, which is predominantly Catholic, has communities that have accepted married priests, Sarte pointed out. ***Desiree Caluza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau***

PROtech FORTRESS
APOLLO SERIES
World Class Burglar Resisting Safe



DON'T CHANCE IT. PROTECH IT.

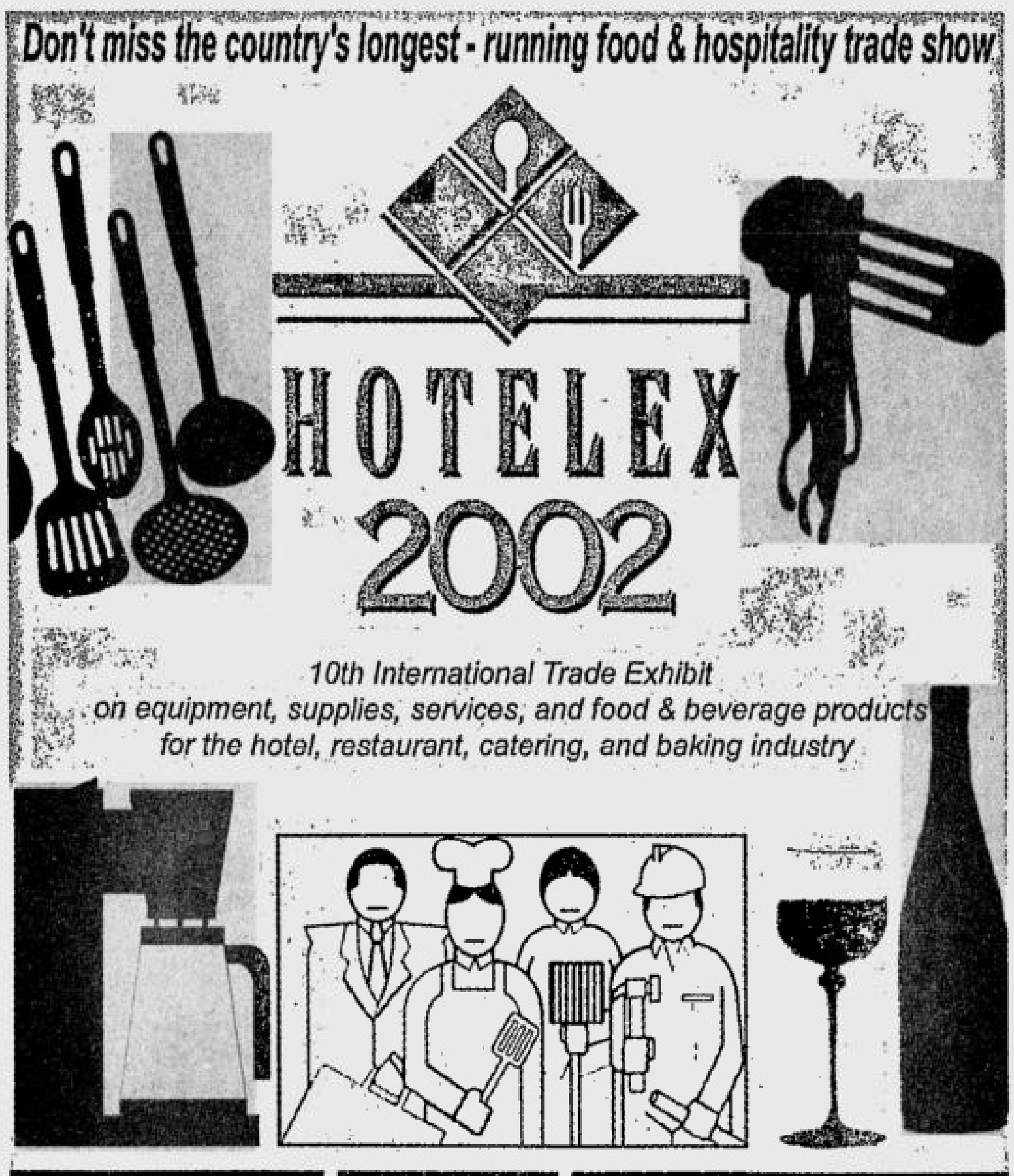
PROTECTION TECHNOLOGY, INC.
Physical Security Equipment www.protech.com.ph

HEAD OFFICE:
2643-U Taft Ave., Pasay City, M.M.
Tels. 833-1246 • 833-3622 • 831-0648
FAX (632) 831-2061
E-mail: protech@philonline.com

CEBU OFFICE:
Escario St. cor. Don Mariano Cui St.
Capitol Site, Cebu City
Tel. (032) 255-6384
Telefax: (032) 254-6301
E-mail: protechc@mozcom.com

DAVAO OFFICE:
Unit B Atty. Fanio Compound
P. Gomez St., Davao City
Tel. (082) 221-6021
Cell. No. 0919-8885852
E-mail: protechd@mozcom.com

Don't miss the country's longest - running food & hospitality trade show



10th International Trade Exhibit on equipment, supplies, services, and food & beverage products for the hotel, restaurant, catering, and baking industry

May 30 - June 1, 2002 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. World Trade Center Metro Manila

DAY 1 - THURSDAY, MAY 30
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. - Opening ceremonies - by invitation only
1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - All About the Vine - An Afternoon of Wine Appreciation
- Wine Excellence Competition
- The Basics of Wine Appreciation by Ralph's Wines and Spirits
  A presentation by Australian Wine Affairs featuring
- Goulburn Estate Wines and Olsen Wines
  A presentation by ATR World's Best Wines & Spirits

DAY 2 - FRIDAY, MAY 31
12:00 n.n. - 2:30 p.m. - Gourmet Lunch - savor a sumptuous luncheon specially prepared by the Hotel and Restaurant Chefs Association of the Philippines
Tickets at P 500.00 per person
Themed Table Settings by the Food Caterers Association of the Philippines
1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - The Business of Food
Point of Sale Systems by Foxchit Systems Solutions
Catering Know-How by the Food Caterers Association of the Philippines
Food Safety by Ecolab
Choosing the Right Franchise by Ms. Alegria "Bing" S. Limjoco, President, Philippine Franchise Association
Product Presentation by Crown Catering & Restaurant Equipment

DAY 3 - SATURDAY, JUNE 1
Live Demonstrations
10:30 a.m. - Cake Decorating with Fondant Icing by Ms. Penk Ching of Pastry Bin
1:00 p.m. - Chefs' Best, a Cooking Demonstration by the Hotel and Restaurant Chefs Association of the Philippines
4:00 p.m. - A Presentation by Mr. Benjamin Silva of Mont Gras Vineyards

OFFICIAL RADIO STATION 105.1 CROSSOVER
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION NexC Global Hospitality Network
REGISTRATION SYSTEM PROVIDER JIMAC INCORPORATED
AUDIO-VISUAL EQUIPMENT PROVIDER ImaTech Corporation
A PROJECT OF WORLDEXCO World Exhibitions and Conventions, Inc. Tel. 8918539 / 8347408 Fax 8340609

SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS:
Food Caterers Association of the Philippines • Hotel & Restaurant Association of the Philippines
Hotel & Restaurant Chefs Association of the Philippines • Hotel & Restaurant Purchasing Managers Association of the Philippines
International Wines & Spirits Association • Philippine Federation of Bakers Associations • Philippine Franchise Association
Philippine Retailers Association

₱1B in false war claims by syndicate uncovered

THE UNITED States Veterans Affairs Office in Washington D.C. has uncovered $20-million (P1-billion) in false war benefit claims by a Filipino crime syndicate, according to Senate Minority Leader Aquilino Q. Pimentel Jr.

Pimentel said the falsification of Filipino veterans' claims might jeopardize the approval in the US Congress of the long-delayed Veterans Equity Act if it remained unsolved.

The measure seeks to upgrade the pension and medical benefits of Filipino soldiers who fought with US forces during World War II.

"This should be investigated and resolved immediately by our government. There should be a specific reaction of the government. There should be no cover up of the case," Pimentel said in a press statement.

He learned about the scam during a brief stop in Los Angeles en route to Ottawa, Canada, where he addressed yesterday a conference at the Canadian Parliamentary Center.

Pimentel said the irregularity was discovered as the US Congress was deliberating on the proposed Veteran Equity Act, which the Bush administration had endorsed.

It might also hinder the processing of benefits claim of Filipino soldiers, he said.

"In short, our government agencies concerned must act expeditiously to resolve the problem. They should act at once on request for assistance by the US veterans officials in order to set the record straight," he said.

Pimentel suggested that the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office and the Veterans Federation of the Philippines work together in cleaning up the roster of legitimate war veterans and in eliminating the bogus claimants. *Rocky Nazareno*

ONE STOP SHOP FOR YOUR SCIENCE EDUCATIONAL EQUIPMENT AND LABORATORY FURNITURE NEEDS.

PLANNING, DESIGNING, FABRICATION & INSTALLATION

PRODUCT LINES:

- LABORATORY GLASSWARES
- LABORATORY SUPPLIES & EQUIPMENT
- SCIENTIFIC APPARATUS
- BIOLOGICAL MODEL
- CHEMICALS
- COMPOUND MICROSCOPE & BINOCULAR MICROSCOPE
- SUNTEX COLONY COUNTER W/ ELECTRONIC REGISTER MODEL 560
- MEMMERT LAB OVEN
- SUNTEX PH METER
- A&D ELECTRONIC BALANCE
- MOISTURE METER
- CHEMISTRY TABLES
- BIOLOGY TABLES
- PHYSICS TABLES
- FUMEHOODS
- LAMINAR FLOW
- SPEECH LABORATORY

TERMS OF PAYMENT NEGOTIABLE.

You are welcome to visit our showroom & office:
For more information, please contact MARS LABURADA at telefax # 634-8701 or fax to us your requirements.

MARS LAB
Mars Laboratory Instruments Center
Unit 610, Prestige Tower, Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Tels.: 631-8799 • 631-9399 • 632-9809 • 634-8707 • TeleFax: (632) 634-8701

TILES & FINISHING MATERIALS AT THE BEST PRICES

CERAMIC PLAZA SALE

Vinyl Tiles P8.95 Only
BEFORE P10.20

Amerilock Doorknob P99.50 Only
BEFORE P150.00

Toolbox P235.00 Only
BEFORE P325.00

Bathroom Accessory Set P719.95 Only
BEFORE P1,348.50
Dress Hook
Towel Bar
Glass Holder
Paper Holder
Towel Ring
Soap Holder

Eurotiles Tile Adhesive P225.00 Only
BEFORE P260.00

Prestige PVC Door P995.00 Only
BEFORE P1,346.00

Eurotiles Tile Grout P39.95 Only
BEFORE P52.00

Bathroom Package P2,400.00 Only
BEFORE P3,100.00
With Lavatory
Soap & Paper Holder
Tank fittings included

Ceramic Tiles 20cm x 20cm P7.25 Only
BEFORE P13.30

STYLNUL THE LEADING SPANISH CERAMIC TILE
IMPORTED SPANISH TILES

13" x 13" Floor Tiles P37.50 Only
BEFORE P50.00

16" x 16" Floor Tiles P52.90 Only
BEFORE P80.00

8" x 12" Wall Tiles P21.00 Only
BEFORE P28.00

METRO MANILA BRANCHES

MANILA 1682 J. Abad Santos Ave (near Dynasty Tower) 253-2827 • 253-0590
QUEZON AVENUE 27-29 [illegible] BLDG (Near D. Tuazon St.) 731-1360
PASAY 811 EDSA 833-5510 834-7537
SUCAT 8206 Dr. A Santos Ave. 829-5417
MUNTINLUPA Christ The King Bldg. Tunasan, Muntinlupa 861-1775
VALENZUELA [illegible] McArthur Hi-way (Karuhatan) Near SMC Warehouse, 291-5271
ANTIPOLO J & F Bldg., Masinag Marcos Highway, Rizal 678-0052

PROVINCIAL BRANCHES

DASMARIÑAS, CAVITE Km. 37 Aguinaldo Hi-way, Dasmariñas, Cavite (046)416-3743
CARMONA Sa. Maduya, National Highway, Carmona, Cavite (046)430-3227
MEYCAUAYAN JP Hermoso Bldg., McArthur Hi-way, Bo. Banga (044)840-0340
BALIUAG DRT Hi-way (044)673-3508 (044)673-0445
GUIGUINTO Unit CDE Cundangan Bldg., Tuktukan (044)690-0606
ANGELES Sta. Ester Bldg. 933 Henson St. (045)887-4611
TARLAC San Sebastian, McArthur Hi-way (045)800-0212

EXTENDED STORE HOURS! 8:30 AM TO 7:30 PM DAILY

ALMANZA, LAS PIÑAS (In front of SM Southmall) Lot 7, Alabang Zapote Rd., Bgy. Almanza, Las Piñas City Tels. 801-7152 • 800-7131 800-7132 • 800-7134
E. RODRIGUEZ 113 E. Rodriguez Avenue, (Near J. Araneta Ave.) Quezon City Tel. 732-1906
MUÑOZ 1207 EDSA, Q.C. Tels. 372-4697 372-1093 • 372-9010 • 372-0011

CERAMIC PLAZA at Federal HARDWARE BUILDER'S CENTER
*OPEN 8:30AM TO 7:30PM DAILY

*FEDERAL HARDWARE-MAKATI 2250 Chino Roces Avenue (Pasong Tamo), Makati City Tels 893-1654 • 893-1690
*FEDERAL HARDWARE-CAINTA No. 9 Imelda Ave. (Near MAKRO), Cainta, Rizal • Tel. 670-1636
FEDERAL HARDWARE-BACOOR, CAVITE Tropical Hut Bldg., Bacoor, Cavite Tel. (046) 870 2898
*FEDERAL HARDWARE-TAYTAY Manila East Road Kaytikling, Taytay, Rizal Tels. 284 2200 • 660 3442
FEDERAL HARDWARE-IMUS, CAVITE 379 NR Aguinaldo Highway (Near Robinsons), Anabu I-C Imus, Cavite Tel. (046) 875-4840
FEDERAL HARDWARE-ANGELES 509 McArthur Highway, Sto. Domingo, Angeles City Tel. (045) 888-4186

NOW OPEN: FEDERAL HARDWARE CALAMBA at Liana's Discount Center, Parian, Calamba, Laguna (049) 545-9744

WIP ARC®
HEAVY DUTY ARC WELDING MACHINES

TOUGH ON THE JOB
HIGH PERFORMANCE • PROVEN QUALITY

T-150
T-250
TR-300
TD-400 Dual-Voltage

2 YEARS WARRANTY ON WORKMANSHIP
LIFETIME SERVICE WARRANTY

OVER 20,000 UNITS SOLD NATIONWIDE • EXPORTED WORLDWIDE

- Other models available: TC-150 Transformer/Charger, TR-300 AC/DC Single Phase, TD-300 Dual-Voltage 220/440 V, R3-300 3-Phase Rectifier DC
- Machines built to YOUR specifications

AVAILABLE AT ALL LEADING HARDWARE STORES NATIONWIDE

WIP INCORPORATED
Quality Products by
WELDING INDUSTRIES OF THE PHILIPPINES, INC.
ISO 9002 TUV Certificate No. 09 100 99188
SALES OFFICE: CARTIMAR Administration Building, Pasay City • Tel. 831-2262 • 831-2263 • 831-7528 • Fax. 831-6834
FACTORY: 111 Baesa Road, Caloocan City • Tel. 364-7581 to 84 • Fax. 362-8706 • EMAIL: wipweld@evoserve.com

SLIMMERS WORLD

HOTLINE 887-3533

GREAT BODIES.

PAY P39
PER VISIT on FIT-FOR-LIFE Full Programmes

13 CENTERS & 23 YEARS IN THE PHILIPPINES. OVER 1,500 AFFILIATES WORLDWIDE.

SAVE UP TO P21,765
NO JOINING FEES! NO MONTHLY DUES! NO HIDDEN CHARGES.

4 SUPER CENTERS OPENING SOON!
PASAY ROAD NOW OPEN TIL MIDNIGHT.

PRICES SLASHED! starting @P368 PER TREATMENT ON FULL PROGRAMMES

Milk Bath for smooth, white skin.

Beautiful Skin.
FREE CONSULTATION
with our In-House Dermatologist
Pay only P1,000 to start.
First 25 this week.
HOTLINE 887-3530

CALL US:
VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.slimmersworld.com.ph or EMAIL US: inquire@slimmersworld.com.ph

ALABANG	BINONDO	CALOOCAN	CEBU	GREENHILLS	LEGASPI VILL.	MALATE	SM MEGAMALL	PASAY ROAD	PASIG	SALCEDO VILL.	SM NORTH	SUBIC
Gemma/Raffi	Herlie/Madel	Sherry	Hazel	Keon/Tinka	Jaja/Shellly	Grace/Tin	Michelle	Camille/Nina	Lorie/JM	Shiela/Jeff	Veron/Ruth	Ruza
2nd Flr. RCBC Bldg.	3/F Regina Garden II	6/F Panorama Bldg., Rizal Ave.	Basement 1&2 Ayala Center	27/F Atlanta Ctr. #31 Annapolis	G/F Zeta Bldg. Salcedo St.	6/F Pan Pacific Hotel, Adriatico St.	2/F Bldg. A Mandaluyong	1032 Arnaiz Avenue, cor. EDSA	Restaurant Ave. Marcos Hi-way	27/F Trafalgar Dela Costa St.	2/F Annex Bldg. Quezon City	2/F Times Square Rizal Hi-way
809-0396	242-1312	365-7654	231-3254	726-6505	893-8934	536-0619	631-3869	887-1336	681-5333	814-0138	929-5429	252-6514

Wycoco traces 'white paper' to Lacson camp

From page A1

the country and other parts of the world, it said in a statement issued yesterday.

Wycoco said the US Embassy also phoned him yesterday morning to deny the ransom report.

"Ever since it was announced that I was going to the United States to confer with Federal Bureau of Investigation officials about money laundering, drug trafficking, kidnap for ransom and terrorism, there have been relentless efforts to besmirch the image of the NBI," Wycoco told reporters.

The FBI is supposedly preparing to turn over to the Philippine government documentary evidence on Lacson's alleged bank accounts in the United States.

"I don't want to name names," Wycoco said. "(But) the bad script bears the same signature as the celebrated Kuratong Baleleng gang and the Dacer-Corbito murder cases."

Lacson's men in the defunct Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Task Force have been charged with the 2000 murder of publicist Salvador "Bubby" Dacer and his driver Emmanuel Corbito.

The Supreme Court is set to announce today whether the Kuratong-Baleleng case against Lacson should be reopened. It involves the alleged summary execution of supposed members of the bank robbery syndicate in 1995. ***(See story on Page A2.)***

Sought for comment, Lacson said: "*Hindi ako marunong gumawa ng* (I don't know how to make a) white paper."

Justice Secretary Hernando Perez, who exercises administrative supervision over the NBI, also denied the payment of ransom for the Burnhams. But he said he would personally investigate the matter.

Perez also said he was to meet with NBI agents at 5 p.m. yesterday to discuss the issue.

1-page paper

Wycoco challenged the NBI's accusers to come out and present evidence to prove their allegations.

"I was told by my friends that the source of information (on the supposed ransom) was a 'white paper' circulated by a shadowy group and picked up by some media practitioners," he said. "I cannot second-guess the motives of the group. It would be better if they come out and present witnesses and evidence."

He said NBI intelligence agents would look into the one-page white paper, half of the contents of which was typewritten and the other half, handwritten.

The paper alleged that the NBI was involved in a botched ransom payment for the release of the Burnhams, and that Wycoco and Deputy Director Lolito Utitco pocketed $150,000 out of the $1 million raised by the New Tribes Mission and relatives of the couple.

It also said that the fund-raisers had approached the FBI, which then contacted the NBI-Interpol to arrange a payoff. It added that Wycoco, Utitco, NBI Interpol chief Ric Diaz, and five NBI agents went to Zamboanga on March 9 to make "the arrangements."

A copy of an NBI special order signed by Wycoco was attached to the paper. It named Diaz and the five other agents who went to Zamboanga.

This was the story told by the paper:

Wycoco and his men went to Basilan and met with Abu Sayyaf negotiator Galin Tilaob.

The NBI offered only $700,000 because Wycoco and his men pocketed $150,000 while Tilaob took the other $150,000.

When Tilaob was on his way back to the Abu Sayyaf camp, government soldiers ambushed him. The $850,000 he was carrying is now missing.

But Wycoco said the NBI agents went to Zamboanga City to check on an FBI report that there were al-Qaida terrorist cells in Mindanao.

He said he and Utitco went to Zamboanga to check on their men.

"We went there for morale-boosting purposes," he said. "I told them, 'Hey, guys, this is part of the job.' It was very transparent. An INQUIRER reporter and (one from) GMA-7 even saw us at the Garden Orchid Hotel."

Wycoco said he went to the South twice in recent months. "(But) I did not go to Basilan," he said. "I have the records to (prove) this."

He said the special order attached to the white paper—which provided the agents a transportation allowance, per diems, and other emoluments—was legitimate because it was required for "civil service purposes."

Only prayer

Fe Tanjusay, a member of the New Tribes Mission Philippines, told the INQUIRER in a phone interview that they did not know of any fund-raising effort for the Burnhams' ransom.

"What we do is pray for their safe release," Tanjusay said.

NBI Interpol chief Diaz, who is in Bicol, denied in a phone interview the allegations in the white paper.

Agence France Presse quoted President Macapagal-Arroyo as warning the public against taking the newspaper reports at face value.

"Please do not glorify or glamorize terrorists," she said in her radio program.

Asked to comment on the reports, the President said: "The only thing I can say is, if this thing really happened, how come the captives are still there?

"Any initiative by other entities that are not coordinated with the Philippine government is their own responsibility. And if they lost money, it's their fault."

Perez said the story told by the white paper was "not true."

"The government has a no-ransom policy, and if the NBI will participate in that kind of operation, it is a violation of the policy of the President," he said, adding:

"Aside from that, an operation like this would require the NBI to involve the secretary of justice. I have not been informed of such an operation."

Perez also told Bombo Radyo that "the NBI has permission to secure (the hostages') release, but not to pay ransom."

On the other hand, Martin Burnham's family in the United States was reported as saying early this month that it reached an unspecified deal with the Abu Sayyaf in March that would have led to the freedom of the hostages.

Family members said they went public after the bandit group supposedly reneged on the deal.

Senate inquiry

In a privilege speech yesterday, opposition Sen. Sergio Osmeña III asked that the supposed involvement of the NBI in the alleged ransom payment be included in the ongoing Senate inquiry into the suspected collusion between the Abu Sayyaf and some military personnel and officials.

Osmeña questioned the role of the NBI in the alleged ransom delivery in light of Malacañang's stance of "no negotiation" with bandit groups.

He also asked whether the US State Department had approved the supposed ransom payment.

"It's now clear why, in most media interviews by the US State Secretary or US Interpol, all they say is 'no comment' to questions whether they are planning to pay ransom (for the release of the Burnhams)," the senator said.

He added that the reported ransom delivery was "a tremendous embarrassment to our government." ***With reports from Michael Lim Ubac, Rocky Nazareno, AFP***

GMA unsettles journalists

From page A1

marking a full year in captivity—she gave the military new orders.

"It's good it was you who asked me," the President said, starting calmly, but then adding point-blank: "In fact you are suspected of being an accomplice (of the Abu Sayyaf) because you are the source of their messages."

The President was obviously referring to Radyo Agong's airing of exclusive phone interviews with Abu Sayyaf spokesperson Abu Sabaya since the Dos Palmas hostage crisis broke out on May 27, 2001.

"My order remains the same," Ms Macapagal said of her standing directive for the military to annihilate the Abu Sayyaf.

"It also goes the same to you and the rest of the citizenry: Don't glorify and glamorize these terrorists," the President said, specifically addressing Bayoging. The Zamboanga journalist made an indistinct reply.

Interview anchor Jay Sonza came to Bayoging's rescue by asking whether the President had given the Armed Forces' Southern Command a new deadline for rescuing the Burnhams.

"I have never given them a deadline," the President said.

Reiterating the government's no-ransom policy against the Abu Sayyaf, Ms Macapagal said the rescue operations will continue "for as long as it takes."

Just before the skirmish with Bayoging, Ms Macapagal also made short shrift of another RMN mainstay, Congress reporter Mike Abe. When Abe asked her whether she was determined to push through with the controversial "interim agreements" with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, now that "a majority" of congressmen had signified their opposition, the President curtly replied that, no, there wasn't a majority against it.

When the hapless reporter and radio anchor tried to rephrase his question, asking for the President's reactions in view of the doubts raised in Congress, Ms Macapagal said, quite correctly: "*Iba ang duda sa tutol* (doubt is different from opposition)."

But then she left it at that.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Tuesday, May 28, 2002
8th Week in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: **1 P 1:10-16**
Gospel: **Mk 10:28-31**

Peter spoke up and said to Jesus, "We have given up everything to follow you." Jesus answered, "Truly, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters, or father or mother, or children, or lands for my sake and for the Gospel, who will not receive his reward. I say to you: even in the midst of persecution he will receive a hundred times as many houses, brothers, sisters, mothers, children, and lands in the present time and in the world to come eternal life. Do pay attention: Many who now are first will be last, and the last, first."

Commentary

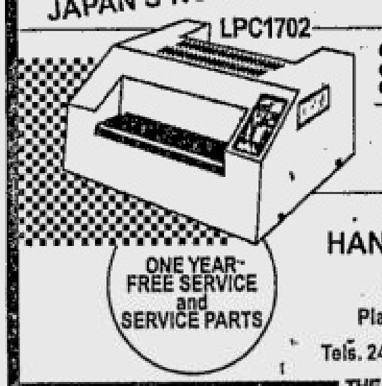
Jesus was not against having things but against our lack of solidarity. When explaining to Peter about the "reward" that those who have left everything may expect, he was not talking about the resources of the Church but about the solidarity of its members. During the great persecutions that the first Christian communities suffered in Jerusalem and later in Rome, they experienced the bonds that united them, often stronger that family relationships. Hunted, obliged to hide, they found hundreds of brothers and sisters ready with houses to give them refuge. So Jesus does not only speak of reward in the next life. Already in this world, in the midst of persecution, those who sacrifice themselves for the Kingdom will find friendship, joy and human fulfillment far greater than anything they could have hoped for.

Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: claret@cn1.net; Websites: http://www.bible.claret.org (Claretian Publications Inc.) & http://missionaries.claret.org (Claretians in the Philippines)

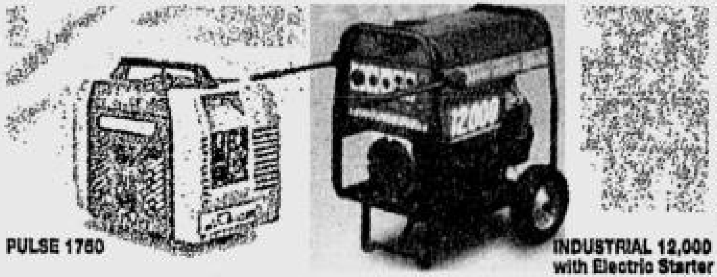
SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

REMEDIAL LAW (EVIDENCE)—Conviction can never be based on hearsay evidence—The settled rule is that conviction can never be based on hearsay evidence. Any oral or documentary evidence is hearsay by nature if its probative value is not based on the personal knowledge of the witness but on the knowledge of some other person who was never presented on the witness stand. Section 36, Rule 130 of the Rules of Court provides that a witness can only testify to those facts that he knows of his personal knowledge, otherwise, such testimony is inadmissible for being hearsay. The underlying reasons for this rule are: (1) to afford the judge the opportunity of observing the demeanor of the witness, and (2) to allow the adverse party a chance of cross-examining the witness. The witness' testimony recalling his co-witness' statement merely proves the fact that such statement was made or the tenor of such statement, but it does not establish the truth of the fact asserted in the statement. The co-witness should have been presented in court to prove the truth of the matter surrounding appellant's alleged involvement in the crime. This would have afforded appellant his constitutional right of confrontation, or to meet the witness against him face-to-face. [Citations omitted.] [Justice Carpio, Third Division, People v. Canlas, G.R. No. 141633, December 14, 2001] **DIGEST BY R.B. VERA**

TACKLES ANY LAMINATING JOBS, BIG OR SMALL
LPC1502S
FUJIPLA LAMIPACKER
JAPAN'S NO. 1 LAMINATOR
LPC1702
●FOR TAMPER PROOF ●DURABLE ID'S ●LIGHT AND PORTABLE ●ECONOMICAL ●EASY TO OPERATE
Original Plastic films and Rolls are readily Available
Call us for a FREE DEMONSTRATION NOW
ONE YEAR FREE SERVICE and SERVICE PARTS
SOLE PHILIPPINE IMPORTER
HANTEX TRADING CO., INC.
Suite 901 9th flr., Tytana Plaza
Plaza Lorenzo Ruiz, Binondo Manila
Tels. 241-0558; 241-0244; 241-0281; 241-0078
THE LEADER IN THE LAMINATING FIELD



Don't be afraid of the dark!
Get a Coleman Powermate generator now!



Coleman Powermate
COLEMAN POWERMATE INTERNATIONAL INC.-Phil. Branch
Units 202 Centerpoint Bldg. Julia Vargas Ave. cor Garnet St. Pasig City, Metro Manila
Tel: (632) 637-8421 • Fax: (632) 637-8430 • E-mail: powermate@colemanasia.com.ph
Website: www.colemanpowermate.com
MALLS: ACE Hardware (All branches) • Handyman (All branches) • True Value (All branches) • Puregold Price Club (All branches) • Pioneer Center • Shopwise Libis • Fiesta Mall – Lipa City • Daily Supermarket – Cubao • HARDWARES: Manila California Industrial 7335992, 7335995 • Tramat Mercantile 7338178 • Royal Plumbing & Hardware 7336969, 7336402 • FGM Industrial & Hardware Supply 7365131, 7345077 • EY Industrial 7335652, 7335927 • RDMI 7800128, 7137568 • Quezon City Anonas Construction 9292955, 9267467, 9227140 • Parañaque Justino Corporation 8515809, 8515366, 8515369 • Baliuag, Bulacan Control Gear Electric Corp. (044) 6512104, 7660809 • Batangas • Antonio's Trading & Gen. Mdse. (043) 7230697, 7233873 • Quezon/Batangas Roann Construction & Supplies (042) 5458148 • Mindoro Continental Enterprises (043) 2883484, 2884650 • Palawan New CBPP Palawan Ent. (048) 4334535, 2539532 • Tarlac Roberts Motor Trading (045) 9823235, 9821452 • La Union La Union Automotive Supply (072) 8882388,8882761 • Laoag City New Era Hardware (077) 7720364, 7714360 • Cebu City Seaman Trade Center (032) 2561061, 2546617, 4169578 • Machinery & Merchandising Center Inc. (032) 2558487, 2547919 • Iloilo City New OK Marketing Corp. (033) 3363314, 3350509 • New ABC Marketing (033) 3363292,3350372 • Bacolod City New Occidental Construction Supply Corp. (034) 4346378, 4349318 • Dumaguete City Great Industrial Center (035) 2250429 • Davao City Zircon Parts & Services (082) 2340845, 2350455 • Butuan City DY Taban Hardware & Auto Supply (085) 3417444 • Iligan City Cuadro Ocho Inc. (063) 2212199, 2213248

PRIVATIZATION AND MANAGEMENT OFFICE
INVITATION SUBMIT OFFERS

Offered for sale on an as-is-where-is basis are the following properties formerly owned by **METRO MANILA TRANSIT CORPORATION (MMTC)**:

Particulars	Indicative Price
Assorted machinery & equipment, spare parts, accessories, and furniture & office equipment at MMTC South Terminal, FTI Compound, Taguig, Metro Manila	P 925,000.00

Offers will be received, opened and tabulated in the presence of the offerors on June 20, 2002, at 3:00 p.m. at the Conference Room, 6th Floor, Privatization and Management Office, 104 Gamboa St., Legaspi Village, Makati City.

Interested parties may request for the sale documents for a nominal fee of P500.00 from the PMO Marketing Department.

In the event that this Negotiated Sale becomes a failure, offers may be received on a "first come, first serve" basis.

For more information please call Ms. Jane V. Santiago at Tel. Nos. 818-4733 or at 892-2145.

PRIVATIZATION AND MANAGEMENT OFFICE
104 Gamboa St., Legaspi Village, Makati City
Tel. Nos. 818-4733; 892-2145 Fax 818-0906

The University of Newcastle, Australia
Centre for Asia Pacific Social Transformation Studies
CAPSTRANS
Master of Social Change and Development
FREE SEMINAR
Come and talk to our representatives from University of Newcastle to find out more about CAPSTRANS to help understand the roots of economic, social and political change facing the Asia Pacific region. The seminar will also discuss other postgraduate coursework degrees within the Faculty of Education and Arts.
Venue: Yakal Room
Dusit Hotel Nikko
Ayala Center 1223, Makati City
Date: Wednesday, 29 May 2002
Time: 6:00pm - 9:00pm
To make a reservation, please contact:
IDP EDUCATION AUSTRALIA
G/F Salustiana Dee Ty Tower, 104 Paseo de Roxas, Legaspi Village, Makati City
Tel. No.: 754-6281 • 754-6277 • 816-0755 • Fax: 815-9875
Email: info@manila.idp.edu.au
Applicants to AusAID Scholarship are welcome to attend
Cricos Provider Code No. 00109J
www.newcastle.edu.au

Alvarez faces CA for 10th time

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday quashed rumors that Environment Secretary Heherson "Sonny" Alvarez is on the way out of her Cabinet, even as he faces the Commission on Appointments for the 10th time today.

Alvarez is having a difficult time getting confirmed by the bicameral body.

The President said her appointment of former press undersecretary Manuel Sanchez as undersecretary at the Department of Environment and Natural Resources should not be read as a sign that the Palace was preparing to replace Alvarez.

It was Alvarez who decided to ask Sanchez to join the DENR, Ms Macapagal said. "I don't think Sonny is looking for his own replacement."

The head of the Jesuits in the country also came to the side of Alvarez, saying the official's confirmation was being blocked by powerful interest groups.

"To attain these aims, some of these groups have protected and even championed those guilty of bad governance and misconduct in public office," said Fr. Romeo Intengan. ***Carlito Pablo and Gerald Lacuarta***

Garcia stays on at GSIS

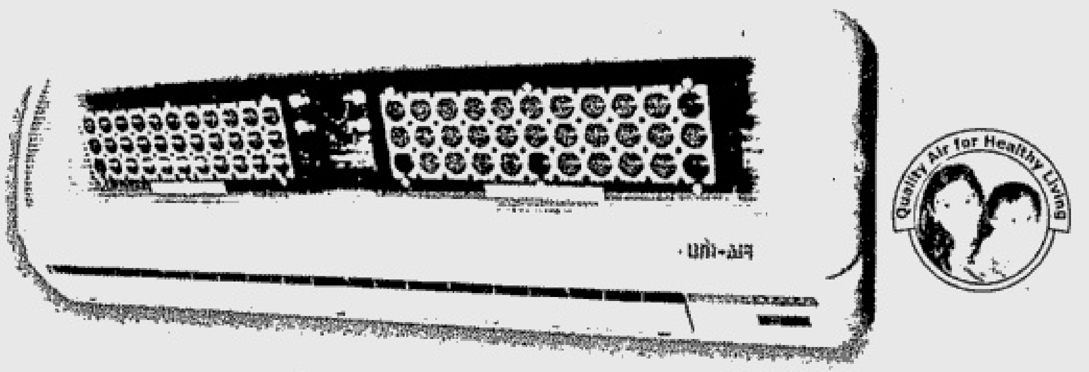
WINSTON Garcia stays on as president of the Government Service Insurance System, President Macapagal-Arroyo said yesterday.

With the announcement, the President put to rest persistent talks that Garcia was on the way out and that Malacañang had chosen a new GSIS chief.

Ms Macapagal said the financial problems besetting the agency were not of Garcia's doing but those of his predecessors. She said Garcia had been "doing a lot to fix these concerns."

She also said she expected the GSIS to finance her project of 100,000 low-cost housing units. ***Carlito Pablo***

NEW!
BREATHING MULTI-PURPOSE TENTS
Will keep you cool even under the mid-day sun
With Air Vents that allow trapped hot air to escape greatly reducing the heat under the tent
Try also our finely-crafted Awnings & Canopies, Car Tents, Camping Tents and Playground Equipment.
SAVE THE ECONOMY! BUY PILIPINO
Party Tents Available for rent
Patent Pending
Call now!!!
tenthaus
The Pioneer. The Leader.
CREDIT CARDS HONORED
Main Office: 2/F Villafuerte III Bldg., 279 Zapote-Alabang Rd. (Fronting Ever Gotesco) Pamplona, Las Piñas Tel. nos.: 872-3788 • 872-9067 Fax no.: 872-2332
Branches: #27 Kamias Rd. Q.C. Tel. nos.: 922-0432
#1140 Pasong Tamo near cor. Kamagong St. Makati Tel. no.: 895-5484 email: tenthaus@info.com



You purify the water you drink ...
Why not purify the air you breathe !

Take 2 for the Price of 1
For every Uni-Air Split Type Room Air Conditioner

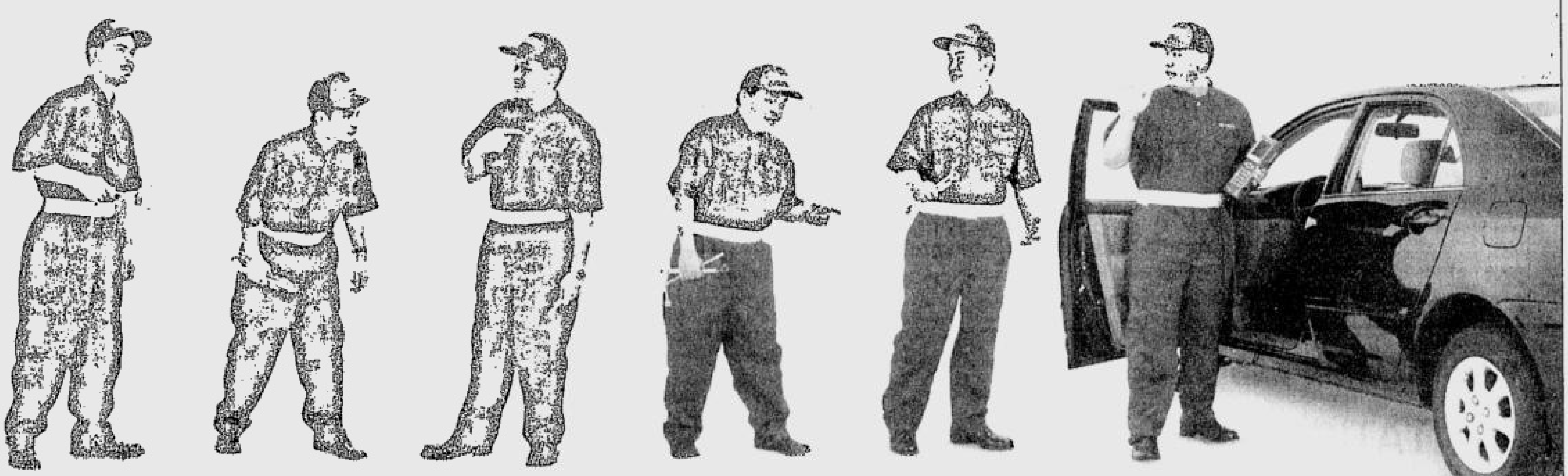
FREE INSTALLATION AND BUILT-IN AIR PURIFIER

SPLIT TYPE MODEL	HP	PRICE
U-1000NSECW	1.0HP	Php 29,000
U-1260NSECW	1.5HP	Php 31,500
U-1800NSECW	2.0HP	Php 39,500
U-2240NSECW	2.5HP	Php 42,500
MULTI-SPLIT TYPE		
U-2000NSECW	2x1HP	Php 58,000
U-2800NSECW	1x1HP + 1x2 HP	Php 68,500

Uni~Air® Split Type Air Conditioner with built-in Air Purifier
Quality Air for Healthy Living

Uni-Air Contact Center
563-0868
• Free Installation: Inclusive of the first 3 meters refrigerant piping; Mounting Bracket, Circuit Breaker, Feeder Line and Chipping of walls, floors or ceiling not included. Available for Metro Manila only.

Only from...
Uni~Air® 友利
For Clean, Cool, Quality Air



Passion TOYOTA

WHAT YOU'LL DEFINITELY LIKE ABOUT THIS PROMO ARE THE MECHANICS.

TOYOTA SERVICE BEST VALUES
TOYOTA PARTS & SERVICE
TOYOTA GENUINE PARTS

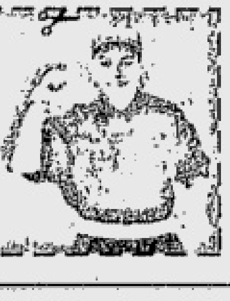
From May 6 to June 29, Toyota Service Best Values puts our most qualified service technicians at your beck and call. Have your car diagnosed for free by our state-of-the art intelligent tester located at all Toyota dealers. You can also avail of special discounts on selected car parts and services. With mechanics like these, your car is sure to feel like a winner.

www.toyota.com.ph

HAVE AN OIL CHANGE DURING THE PROMO PERIOD AND AVAIL OF THESE PERKS. FREE SERVICE CHECK-UP LIST:

- Coolant level
- Brake fluid level
- Windshield washer
- Alternator belt
- Aircon belt
- Wiper blade
- Drive shaft boot
- Battery fluid level
- Shock absorbers
- Tires

20% OFF ON OIL PRODUCTS
For oil change service.
Valid from May 6 to June 1, 2002.



30% OFF ON TIRES
Present coupon at any Toyota Dealer.
Valid from May 6 to June 29, 2002.

10% OFF ON AIRCON PARTS
Present coupon at any Toyota Dealer.
Valid from May 6 to June 29, 2002.

20% OFF ON OIL PRODUCTS
For next oil change service.
Present coupon at any Toyota Dealer.
Valid from June 3 to 29, 2002.

PER DTI NCR Permit #0771, Series of 2002

EUGENIA D. APOSTOL
Founding Chairman

INQUIRER

Vol. 18 No. 169
ISSN
0116-2642

OPINION

e-mail: feedback@inquirer.com.ph website: http://www.inq7.net

The PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, INC. has its business and editorial offices at
Chino Roces Ave. corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City
Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments
Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 Advertising 897-4807
Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 / 528-0186 and 528-0213 / Fax 528-02-34.

100% soy ink

Publisher ISAGANI YAMBOT
Editor in Chief LETTY JIMENEZ-MAGSANOC
Managing Editor JOSE MA. D. NOLASCO
Associate Editor ABELARDO S. ULANDAY
News Editor ARTEMIO T. ENGRACIA JR.
Opinion Editor JORGE V. ARUTA
Assistant News Editor NILO B. PAUROM
National Editor PERGENTINO B. BANDAYREL JR.
City Editor GERRY LIRIO
Senior Deskperson ROSARIO A. GARCELLANO
Editorial Consultant AMANDO DORONILA
Chief Photographer ERNIE U. SARMIENTO
Art & Design Director LYNETT A. VILLARIBA

Board Chairman MARIXI R. PRIETO
President ALEXANDRA PRIETO-ROMUALDEZ
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing RENATO R. REINOSO
Senior Vice President for Corporate Services DAVID O. VALDES
VP for Advertising FELIPE R. OLARTE
AVP for Circulation GLORIA P. LARDIZABAL

All rights reserved. Subject to the conditions provided for by law, no article or photograph published by the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reprinted or reproduced, in whole or in part, without its prior consent.

Nationwide pilot test

EDITORIAL

WHEN classes open next month, thousands of teachers and millions of students will try to adjust to a restructured basic education curriculum.

The new curriculum will have five learning areas: English, Filipino, Mathematics, Science and Makabayan. Subjects to be integrated into Makabayan are Social Studies, Technology, Home Economics and Practical Arts, Music-Arts, Physical Education and Health, Geography, History, Civics, Culture and Values Education. The "basic tool subjects"—English, Filipino, Math and Science—will be given an hour each in every seven-hour school day. Makabayan will be given three hours daily.

This late, there is strong opposition to the new curriculum. One type of objection is procedural: The Alliance of Concerned Teachers, two other teachers' associations and the National Union of Students in the Philippines decry the fact that no pilot tests were done in the country's public school system. In effect, the implementation of the new curriculum this year will be a nationwide pilot test.

Second, teachers say the training for the new curriculum has been inadequate. About 2,200 supervisors, 40,000 principals and 400,000 public school teachers were to be trained in April and May. We still have to get a report about how the training program was received. But if we take the training of Manila public school teachers as an example, then it may not have been adequate.

Benjamin Valbuena, chair of ACT and head of the Manila Public School Teachers Association, noted that 2,000 teachers were packed into the auditorium of Mapa High School, which can accommodate only about 1,000, for training in the Makabayan subjects. There was no overhead projector, no training materials, no handouts. Many teachers could not hear the lectures as the sound system could not reach the back of the hall.

Another type of objections refers to the content of the curriculum. One concern is that science teaching time will be reduced from 80 to 60 minutes per day in the first, second and third year high school levels. Together with the dropping of science subjects from Grades 1 and 2 of the elementary science curriculum, this will downgrade science education in the public school system.

Inquirer columnist Dean Jorge Bocobo, a physicist, calculates that the 25 percent reduction in teaching time allotted to science subjects in public high schools will result in about one billion hours that Filipino students will **not** be studying science in the coming school year.

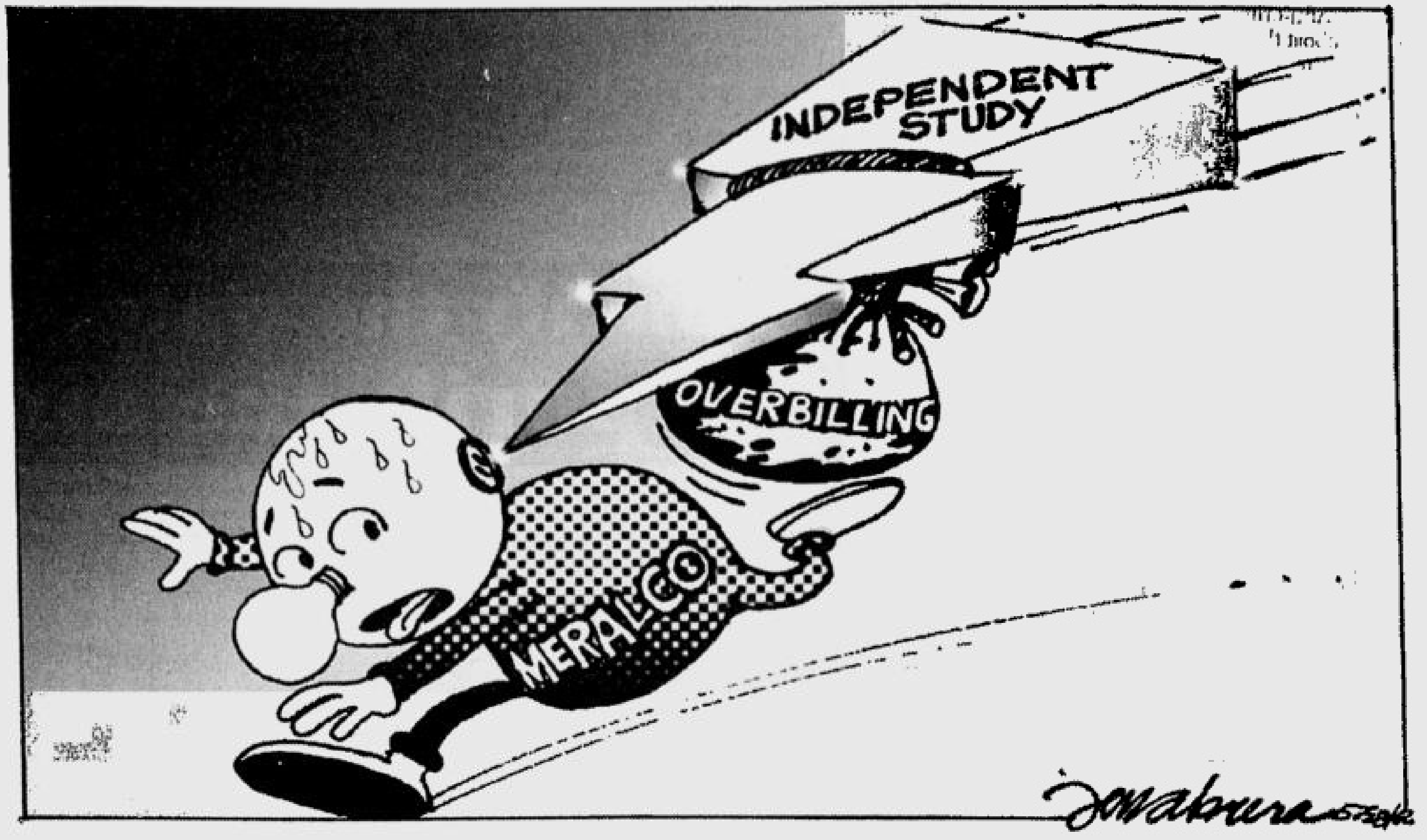
Another concern has to do with the reduction of the teaching time allotted to history. History Prof. Ferdinand C. Llanes of the University of the Philippines said History helps mold critical and holistic thinking. Academic Supervisor Antonio Calipjo Go of Marian School said Social Studies (which includes History) imbues students with a sense of nationhood and cultural identity. The downgrading of Social Studies, he said, will breed a generation of Filipinos with no sense of belonging to the land of their birth.

Finally, some educators decry the downgrading of Values Education which will effectively have a .4 credit in the new curriculum instead of the one in the old curriculum. Why downgrade Values Education when it is precisely values that have to be inculcated in children at an early age?

President Macapagal has defended the new curriculum. She said the emphasis on English, Science and Math will help the country compete in an era of globalization. The Department of Education said it hoped to develop students into skilled Filipinos capable of working creatively in a rapidly changing word. This is all fine, but in adapting the curriculum to the era of globalization, must we sacrifice such subjects as History and Values Education?

The ACT said the new curriculum "will sacrifice the education of the youth, who will become cheap skilled laborers in the world market instead of productive Filipinos with a strong sense of history, culture, arts and all-around skills."

At this point it may be too late to suspend the implementation of the new curriculum. But we hope Education Secretary Raul Roco will remember the statement he made in a TV interview that nothing is cast in stone and that everything will be up for review next year. This may yet turn out to be a very costly nationwide pilot test for a new curriculum. We hope that when the curriculum is reviewed at the end of the school year, the objections presented by the teachers' organizations and some concerned individuals will be seriously considered.



'Stranded costs' more cruel than PPA

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

THERE is a new controversy over a new birth control pill called Postinor (generic name: Levonorgestrel). The Bureau of Food and Drugs (BFAD) has banned its use on the ground that it has an abortifacient effect (it aborts pregnancies) and violates the law. Women's groups, on the other hand, said it should be allowed as an "emergency contraceptive pill" in cases like rape. Taken within 72 hours after unprotected sex, Postinor is said to prevent pregnancies.

Actually, there is a birth control pill that is not controversial. (I've recommended this before but nobody listens.) It does not violate any law and is acceptable to the Catholic Church. It is safe and has no side effects. It is 100-percent effective. When taken as directed, there is no pregnancy in 100 percent of cases. What's more, it is fair to the woman because it is taken by the man (all other birth control pills are taken by the woman). This one is taken by the man 30 minutes before going to bed.

What is it? A sleeping pill.

* * *

The sin of former President Fidel V. Ramos is not that he signed those contracts with the independent power producers (IPPs) with terms grossly disadvantageous to the government. At that time, when we had the power crisis in the 1990s, we had no choice. We needed power and we were begging investors to set up power plants. Beggars can't be choosers. So the IPPs were practically dictating the terms. And Ramos had the authority to conclude those contracts. Congress had given him emergency powers for two years.

But Ramos' sin was that he continued signing contracts with the IPPs even when there was no more need for new ones. There was already an apparent excess of electricity and the Asian economic crisis was already upon us but Ramos merrily continued signing contracts. And, what's more, his two-year emergency power to sign contracts had already expired and his presidential term was already expiring.

Why did he do a foolish thing like that? We can only guess.

* * *

The unkindest cut in the present power mess is not the PPA, (purchased power adjustment). It is the "stranded costs," which is a euphemism for the debts of the National Power Corp.

When the power plants of the Napocor are sold to lucky private parties, they will not inherit the loans incurred to build and develop those plants as was done in the case of the water franchises. When the water franchises were awarded to Manila Water and Maynilad Water, they inherited the debts of the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System. In the case of the power sector, the Napocor plants will be sold clean, without any debts. The debts will be left behind, and that is why they are called "stranded costs."

Who will pay for those debts? Who else but the taxpayers.

The reason given: So that the government will get a good price for the power plants. If the buyers have to shoulder the debts, the bid prices would be very low, they said. The new owners should really pay for the loans incurred for the plants. But the government wants to get good prices for them.

That is crazy. That is self-hypnotism. We are fooling ourselves. We will get good prices for the power plants because they will be debt-free, but we will pay for those debts. Whatever gain we get in the sale, we lose to the creditors.

What the government really plans to do is keep the proceeds of the sale for itself and let the people pay for the debts. The "stranded costs" will either be added to the electric bill in the form of another PPA, or will come from taxes to be paid by the people. Meanwhile, the government will have a merry time spending the proceeds of the power plants sale.

The present PPA is nothing compared to the "stranded costs" when they start collecting them from us.

* * *

The cruelest thing about the present PPA is that while it is being collected from us, we are at the same time being fooled.

The PPA goes up when the price of crude oil goes up and/or the exchange rate of the peso goes down. These ups and downs in the oil market and the exchange rate are really part of the risks of doing business. They really should be part of the overhead of the power companies. They can get it back by raising their basic rates.

But the government fools the people by making them believe the power rate doesn't go up. It really does—but it doesn't go into the basic rate; it goes into the PPA. The basic rate insures the profit margin of the distributor (Meralco); the PPA reflects all the other additional costs. It is like buying a kilo of price for only P10 but being charged extra for planting, harvesting, threshing and milling the rice. The P10 goes to the market vendor but the latter costs go to the farmers and the rice miller.

That's how the government fools its people.

* * *

Today's joke:

Loi: I got a star in my IQ test.

Erap: I got a moon. *Mas marunong ako sa iyo.*

Loi: *Gago, hindi* moon *'yan.* Zero *'yan!*

Don't bring out the champagne yet

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

THE GOOD news is that Congress has passed a bill that will give tax incentives to moviemakers who make good movies. The bill, creating the Film Development Council of the Philippines, provides for a Cinema Evaluation Board, consisting of 20 members of the film industry and 10 representatives from the academe and business, which will rate movies according to quality. Films given an A and B rating will get respectively a 100-percent and 65-percent break from the amusement taxes levied on movies.

The bad news is that the same bill does not give moral incentives to moviemakers who make provocative movies.

There were actually two versions of the bill, the House's and the Senate's. The House bill was by far the more progressive, calling for the reining in of censorship. It stipulated that films that had been classified by the Cinema Evaluation Board as A or B may not get an "X" rating from the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board. Or prevented from being shown. The Senate bill was completely silent on this. It was the Senate bill Congress passed.

As I understand it, Marichu Maceda, Marilou Diaz-Abaya and Laurice Guillen themselves favored the Senate bill because the House bill, with its anti-censorship provisions, would have displeased President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. Maceda and Abaya apparently expressly said so. They told a committee hearing that to include the anti-censorship provisions in the bill was to invite the President to veto the bill. They preferred to settle for a bill that would give tax breaks to good movies as it was well past due. It was not that they were giving up the fight against censorship, they said, they were merely putting it off for another day.

The Directors' Guild of the Philippines has protested this even while applauding the passage of the tax incentives. They were part of the original group, they said, that lobbied for the creation of a film development board, or council, based on two grounds. One was tax incentives, which would allow producers to veer away from formula movies, and the other was a more liberal climate, which would allow moviemakers to experiment and explore and make cutting-edge movies. This was after all, they said, a bill creating a Film Development Council, not a Tax Incentives Council.

A very good point, and one I sympathize with entirely. You want a bill that boosts the development of Philippine movies, you want a bill that eliminates the major stumbling blocks in the development of Philippine movies. Those stumbling blocks aren't just financial, they are also, probably far more so, moral. I use "moral" here of course in an expansive sense, in the sense of truthful and deceitful, honest and dishonest, and not in the sense of pure and impure, chaste and unchaste, pious and impious. Because morality is also what the censors are invoking, a kind of morality that would cast Lino Brocka's movies into the fires of hell.

Quite apart from this, what business does the President of the Philippines have being displeased with a provision that says movies that are deemed superior by the Film Development Council, enough to be exempted from taxes, may not be X-ed? At the very least, what is moral is for a President not to meddle in the affairs of Congress, which is messing around with the separation of the branches of government. Of course, we have only the word of Maceda and Abaya on this. But Malacañang has not denied it. But far more than that, the provision is completely commonsensical. Why should you have a Film Development Council, composed mainly of people who know works of high art, being overruled by the MTRCB, composed mainly of people who know only friends in high places?

Refusing to deal with this issue today is not a case of running away to fight again another day. It is a case of running away, period. This is the best time to deal with issues of morality and censorship, not only because the development of Philippine movies goes beyond taxes but because the issue of morality has been thrust into the limelight by the scandals in the Catholic Church. Clearly, morality is far more complex than can be reduced to "lewd movies." We take it the priests who have figured in those sex scandals, particularly those who have been accused of pedophilia and sexual harassment, have not been driven to do so by "lewd movies." Or maybe they were watching them on the sly?

Indeed, the problem of censorship and morality goes beyond the movies and touches on all aspects of our lives today. My own concern with it is that it has monumental implications for democracy and freedom of the press. The proposition that if you remove censorship, unscrupulous producers will take advantage of it to produce prurient movies is a dangerous one. It is like taking the vote away from the *masa* because they tend to use it only to vote for Erap. The fact that a right can be abused is not an excuse to abrogate a right, or not grant it.

The same proposition of course has been advanced about freedom of the press. That was what Erap did when he mounted a boycott against the INQUIRER, which his spokesperson, Jerry Barican, justified as necessary to curb the press' tendency to abuse. President Macapagal's own vision of the press, which she has unveiled in various speeches, is one that stresses "positive values," which is really nothing more or less than a version of Marcos' "development journalism," "positive" and "developmental" both being defined as non-critical. Thankfully, the press has not taken the bait and remained reasonably independent.

But you'll allow Brocka's favorite community, the movie community, to be turned into a Trojan horse in this respect, you never know what can happen.

Supreme Court decision keenly awaited

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

BEING awaited any day now is the Supreme Court decision on whether or not to allow the reopening of the Kuratong Baleleng case in which Sen. Panfilo Lacson, then task force chief of the now defunct Presidential Anti-Crime Commission, is implicated. The case is about the alleged "salvaging" in May 1995 of 11 suspected bank robbers in Quezon City, eight of whom had been picked up in a police raid on a Kuratong Baleleng hideout in Parañaque. After gruesome photos of the killings were published by the media, Lacson's men claimed that it was a high-speed chase and shootout. The Department of Justice, however, maintains that it was a rubout and wants to have the Kuratong Baleleng case reopened after two new witnesses surfaced. It will be recalled that other witnesses had recanted and fled to Canada.

* * *

Lacson's lawyers have demanded that the two newest justices, Renato Corona and Ma. Alicia Austria Martinez, inhibit themselves, since they were appointed by President Macapagal. Court insiders, however, say that the two justices are not disposed to do that, and I can see why: It would set a bad precedent. If every justice were to inhibit himself just because the case before him may affect the appointing power, then few justices would be able to do their work. Besides, we have seen Chief Justice Hilario Davide and Justice Artemio Panganiban inhibit themselves out of *delicadeza* in the Supreme Court's unanimous decision on the legitimacy of President Macapagal assumption to power, because Davide had administered the oath to GMA, but still they keep getting criticisms from the opposition. Ultimately, each decision becomes a judgment call for each jurist, with only his conscience as his guide to action.

* * *

Earlier this column questioned the wisdom of the Senate's legislating two Muslim national holidays as a way to reconcile the Muslim and Christian populations. I wrote that one Muslim holiday should suffice to honor Muslims who make up less than 5 percent population here. Ideally the holiday, as proposed by Sen. Edgarda Angara in Senate Bill 2026, would be Eidul Fitr, the close of the holy fasting month of Ramadan. The law would make permanent a proclamation by Ms Macapagal last year declaring Eidul Fitr a national holiday.

* * *

I also wrote that perhaps the proposed second national Muslim holiday, Eidul Adha, commemorating the 10th day of the pilgrimage month of Hajj, an amendment introduced by Sen. Loren Legarda, would be better observed as a regional holiday, even though the two feasts are considered "companion feasts." I opined that pushing two Muslim holidays might work against the desired aim of bringing about a reconciliation between the two great faiths. Luckily, this was also the more popular thinking among the senators.

* * *

The secretary-general of the Philippine Islamic Council, Prof. Taha M. Basman, wrote to point out, however, that a number of countries with multi-religious and multi-cultural citizens also celebrate both Eidul Fitr and Eidul Adha as national holidays, together with those of other faiths. Basman pointed to Singapore, India, Malaysia, Indonesia, Pakistan, Bangladesh, among other countries. He also opined that the Philippine practice of celebrating only Christian holidays makes us the "odd man" in Asia. But it should also be pointed out that these countries mentioned by Basman are predominantly Muslim, except for Singapore; hence, it is natural for them to have two or more Muslim national holidays. On the other hand, Singapore has a Muslim population of over 30 percent, far bigger than ours.

* * *

The 2B3C Foundation composed of Ateneo High School alumni of the early 1950s called to ask for more plugs to sell their book project, the four volumes of hitherto unpublished works of the eminent Filipino Jesuit historian, Fr. Horacio Luis de la Costa, who became the first Filipino provincial of the Society of Jesus. The books, to be launched on the anniversary of De la Costa's ordination this June, costs P1,000 for four volumes of 400 pages each for the paperback edition, and P2,000 for the hardbound edition. Actually these are very good prices, for the four volumes cover practically the whole span of Philippine history and culture, apart from demonstrating the depth and breadth of the Harvard-trained historian's mind. The De la Costa books would make a very valuable contribution to school and personal libraries, as well as perfect gifts of companies to visiting dignitaries.

* * *

One volume will include 17 of De la Costa's studies on RP colonial history, containing very interesting vignettes. For instance, the first people power uprising happened not in February 1986, but in 1668, during the time of the corrupt Spanish Governor-General Diego Salcedo; and that the second was not in January 2001 but in 1719, against Governor-General Fernando de Bustamante, who was more corrupt than Salcedo.

Another volume will be devoted to De la Costa's essays and lectures on the Filipino, his culture and his problems, while another will include some of his homilies and reflections on faith, church, religion and evangelization. The fourth volume will be devoted to his writings as a young student and a Jesuit scholastic, beginning with a piece written in the Ateneo High School when he was 11 as well as the scripts of 20 radio plays he wrote. The fourth volume also mirrors an Ateneo of another age, which should be of great interest to the alumni today.

Most of De la Costa's works were happily saved by his mother when he was already very sick with cancer. A former student of his who followed him to a doctorate in history at Harvard, Dr. Roberto Paterno of 2C3B Foundation, compiled and edited them. Orders can be made through e-mail (rsvp@alumni.ateneo.net) or by fax, Tel. No. 426-6080.

A way to honor Brocka

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

WRITING from La Mirada, California, Dante Gutierrez says the column on "Tinimbang ka Nguni't Kulang," the Lino Brocka opus that preceded "Maynila sa Kuko ng Liwanag," evoked memories of the first time he watched the movie.

"I was not (maybe the operative word should be 'never') a big Filipino movie fan, but the youth group I belong to at the time enjoined us all to watch the movie...Anyway, I was looking forward to a dull and dumb Pinoy movie, but then 20 minutes into the film, I realized that it was not your regular Pinoy-type film. It had character. It had a good plot. It had excellent acting. It had powerful dialogue. It had something that grabbed you. And it grabbed me to the point that I wanted more even after the movie ended."

Gutierrez says he never saw "Tinimbang" again nor any other Brocka movie after that, since he moved to the United States shortly after. "Since that time I left over 20 years ago, I have tried (in vain) to find a copy of that movie from all video stores in Metro Manila. I even tried calling the broadcast stations if they have a copy. One station said they do (and have actually re-shown the movie in TV format sometime ago), but he said they do not sell nor re-record a copy commercially."

What Gutierrez wants to know is where he can obtain or purchase a copy of "Tinimbang." "I wanted so much to show it to my family and friends here. No one that I know has seen the movie, though I don't know how they could have missed it!"

* * *

CALLING all producers and even cultural authorities, such as the officials of the National Commission on Culture and the Arts. In other countries, the films of noted directors are marketed to connoisseurs in the form of boxed videotape sets or special-edition DVDs.

I would think the recent citation of "Maynila" as among the world's best films of all time would be enough reason for Brocka fans, such as Gutierrez, to want to get hold of readily accessible copies of his movies for easy viewing. Can't someone or some film company finance the compilation of Brocka movies for this purpose? Or, come to think of it, of movies of other masters like Gerry de Leon, Bert Avellana, or Ishmael Bernal? Films, after all, live forever not through special events or retrospectives, but through constant viewing and appreciation, spreading the experience of a first viewing down through generations of film buffs.

* * *

SECURITIES and Exchange Commission Chair Lilia Bautista wrote in reaction to a column on the CBCPNet fiasco, specifically to answer a question I had raised regarding the apparent lack of SEC oversight in this affair.

The latest development in the case, said the SEC chair, is that the minority shareholders have filed an application with the SEC for the dissolution of the company. "The matter is being reviewed carefully considering the legal complexities. On one hand, under the Corporation Code, voluntary dissolution can be effected if there is a vote of stockholders representing two-thirds of the Outstanding Capital Stock. On the other hand, for involuntary dissolution, the law gives specific grounds, which at present are not apparent in the case. Nevertheless, we are looking at other possible options available to protect the creditors and possible investors," wrote Bautista.

As part of the commission's mandate to develop the Philippine capital market, Bautista said, "the SEC does espouse transparency and accountability of all companies to the investing public...Further, we are issuing a directive for the accreditation of external auditors of listed companies, and pushing for the compliance of Philippine financial accounting standards to international accounting standards and practices. There are moves we have taken to ensure good corporate governance, particularly in companies that issue securities to the investing public. In other words, we have brought the horses over to the stream to drink, but it is not in our power to make them all drink."

* * *

THIS is why the commission urges the investing public to "take a good look at those companies in which they would invest their hard-earned money. Investors have to learn to exert effort to know about where their money is going, to ask questions and not to just take the word of fast-talking promoters of business ventures, and to demand transparency and accountability from the boards of directors or trustees of companies in which they invest."

The SEC, in fact, is hosting a series of seminars around the country on the role of the SEC and the responsibilities of listed companies, as well as on the rights of the investing public. "Knowledge is power," Bautista reminds the public.

As for the lessons learned from the financial disaster that was CBCPNet, Bautista says she agrees with my point that "our Catholic faithful is entitled to a transparent reporting and explanation of this fiasco. It is also clear that financial matters, even of Church-sponsored organizations, must be entrusted to those who have the appropriate financial background and skills, whether they be clergy or laity. And the Boards of Directors of such organizations must be accountable to their stakeholders. In matters of finance, the Church authorities cannot speak 'ex cathedra.' Nor should 'mea culpas' exculpate them from their fiduciary responsibilities." Well, let's hope lessons have been learned all around, and that all those entangled in the web of this sticky business situation will find a way to extricate themselves from it.

Understanding Filipino space

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY

Bambi L. Harper

ONE of the most striking discoveries the unaware can make is that the Filipino language has no word for "privacy," a word derived from the English "privy," meaning outhouse and which can also mean secret.

Imagine that 19th century outhouse with three toilets set in a row. Did the owners continue their conversations there? Would a friend have joined them? Certainly it opens a realm of possibilities all alien to the Westernized Filipino who has bathrooms to himself and all kinds of secrets.

Privacy could not have been a priority either with the ancestors of Manileños since men, women and children bathed together in the Pasig River. Granted they kept their clothes on, but still who wants to be seen looking like a wet chicken?

There are two types of space, of course: man-made structures and mental ones. One would imagine that if you lived without physical privacy you would have to have a rich inner life or some place you could retreat to. On the other hand, that might be a thoroughly modern or Western invention that our ancestors didn't need.

It is in the examination of the *bahay kubo*, that one-room house, where we realize that there may be a separate area for the kitchen and even a small porch, but basically that other section serves interchangeable functions depending on the time of day. It is either a receiving room or *sala*, a dining room where a wooden short table (*dulong*) can be brought out for meals, and the sleeping quarters at night where a mat is laid out and a mosquito net attached to the four corners transforming it into a communal bedroom.

According to travelers' descriptions of a meal, the food was served all at the same time. These consisted mainly of rice, a fish or meat soup or dried fish but with different seasonings such as fish or shrimp paste (*bagoong*) or a preserve of unripe papaya. What struck them was the use of the hands for eating wherein a visitor would be offered a morsel of food that was placed in their mouth. Your acceptance of this custom endeared you to your host who was merely expressing his hospitality. But again you see a communal sharing spirit wherein no one had individual table utensils.

The *bahay na bato* that developed under Spain's colonial rule was made of *cal y canto* (lime and stone) or *materiales fuertes* for greater durability and protection from the elements but the basic idea remained. The house might look enormous from the outside, only to surprise present-day visitors with the fact that there are only three rooms or sometimes only two. Bedrooms contained at least three tester beds with three armoires or cabinets. One was the master's bedroom, and the other two were for the children and an extended family of grandmother, maiden aunts and visiting relatives. During the summer everyone slept in the living room on a huge mat under what must have been an enormous mosquito net right beside the *ventanilla* or the open space with balusters beneath the wide windows of the *sala*.

The ground floor, called *zaguan*, was only used for storage (of carriages or *carrozas* of saints or produce) just like in the *bahay kubo*. It was not considered healthy to live that close to the soil. One ascended to a *caida* used as an ante-sala where you waited. If you were important enough you were ushered to the second floor and the living room doors would be opened. All the rooms were linked by an outer corridor called the *volada* that protected the interior from both the rain and the heat.

Toward the back of the house was the dining room, the kitchen and the *azotea or* terrace containing the *aljibe* (a Moorish word meaning cistern) to collect rain water. Sometimes the bathroom was constructed there or it was part of the *dispensa* or pantry room.

Visiting architects have commented that the *bahay na bato* is a classic design, uniquely Filipino since it doesn't appear in any other country. With its wide windows and open space between rooms for the circulation of the air, its use of stone and wood and a roof with an overhang, it is perfectly suited to the climate.

Privacy must have come into play during the American period when bathrooms were attached to individual bedrooms. American one-story "chalets" in Malate still had ample space between the ground and the main house, although in continuation of the tradition of the *bahay kubo* and *bahay na bato*, the living quarters were all in one story. With the introduction of the automobile, a garage was added and the kitchen became an integral part of the house. Spaces began to have divisions with definite roles that were no longer interchangeable.

Later, perhaps with the introduction of reinforced concrete, two-story houses were built and the *caida* and *volada* were eliminated. The ground floor now contained the kitchen, dining room and the more public spaces such as the living room or a porch where visitors were received. Bedrooms and bathrooms were located on the second floor and were thus more private. The upstairs of these houses still contained a landing at the top of the stairs that was often used as a family room with bedrooms opening into it.

It was during the post-war period that a different type of design came into play. With the introduction of air-conditioning, it was no longer necessary to have huge windows. You now have split-level houses, bungalows, townhouses and apartment rows. More recent are the residential condominiums in urban areas. Other complexities have been introduced like computers, televisions, music and video components, electronic gadgets requiring more storage space, special lighting effects, and swimming pools. You have to admit the changes in our architectural styles reflect as well the modern complexity of our lives.

Strawberry moment

YOUNGBLOOD

Abyz D. Carreon

*We want to know what the young are thinking about. What are their thoughts on current issues? We welcome contributions from the twentysomething and below.—**Ed.***

THERE he goes. What an idiot!

Is that being too harsh? Stupid perhaps? How about reckless? But how would you call someone who was handed a once-in-a-lifetime, golden opportunity such as the chance to start a career in the country's largest food and beverage conglomerate but turned his back on it? You would have thought that after being out of work for nearly six months made him so hungry to get back to earning a living again that he would thank the stars for the opportunity to work in that company.

He did pass the battery of exams and the interview went well, so well in fact that they ended up talking for nearly two hours. You could tell that the young and genial human resources manager who was looking for an assistant, liked him and was considering him. She even told him so!

And what did he do after that? She told him to expect a call within the week for the decision. But the next day he called her up to say he was withdrawing his application, giving as an excuse a false story about going abroad.

Of course, he was more than a little bit worried about what his family and friends would say if they found out. After all, it's not like there were very many decent and prestigious jobs out there to pick from. Besides, the country was been caught in something like a perpetual economic slump making it absolutely necessary to grab any available job and hang on to it whatever it took, although that reality seemed to have escaped him since he had left his previous jobs under very difficult circumstances (but that's another story). .

There's also the competition from graduates of far better schools and other job seekers whose résumés were much more impressive. Moreover being jobless (or being a "bum," to be brutal about it) didn't do wonders to one's self-esteem. Asking for money from your folks three years after graduation didn't come easy. The license to ask for handouts expires much faster as you get older; hence the need for gainful employment.

So what is it that made sanity take leave of him? Please listen to this quite familiar Zen story.

One night a long time ago, a priest was going home to the hills when all of sudden a tiger sprang from the darkness and started chasing him. As he tried to flee, he slipped off a cliff and began to fall. Luckily he grabbed hold of the root of a tree growing by the side of that cliff. Already in a precarious situation, with the tiger at the top of the cliff and a deep chasm below him, the priest noticed two rats gnawing at the root he was holding on to. Could anything be worse than that?

Just as he was about to drown in despair, the priest saw a strawberry growing close by. It had a single fruit that looked redder and plumper than any he had ever seen. He plucked the fruit and put it in his mouth. It was the most delicious and sweetest thing he had ever tasted.

The most interesting part of the story is it's ending. It doesn't have any, and one is free to invent it. So what is the point? The story is meant to make us focus on that single "strawberry moment" more than anything else.

Perhaps like the priest, this fool was caught in the dilemma of remaining unemployed and an uncertain future and found his one brief, lucid strawberry moment. In that sublime moment, he must have lost himself and discovered what truly made him happy—strawberries not included.

It was in that moment that he realized that he wasn't happy to continue working in that field anymore. He felt he had gotten stuck in too much paperwork, the stress, the frustration, the cycle of the machine that turned him into a mere cog. There was nothing inspiring about going through the motions of doing the same routine every day and just hoping that he would be pushed up the corporate ladder in the process. Through the daily grind, the important questions that kept popping up was: Are you really happy? The fulfilled kind of happy?

This being the case, he envies not those who go through the everyday grind. Perhaps in his case, the naivete or youthful restlessness of being true to oneself hasn't worn off him yet. Funny because in the natural progression of things as one gets older, pursuing happiness and fulfillment takes a back seat to being "realistic" or "pragmatic." Instead he has made another, albeit more difficult choice.

So what make him truly happy? The only thing he knows he does well, the only thing he feels he can immerse himself in so that ultimately he can weave himself into the grand fabric of life is writing. An amateur writer in every sense of the word. Blame it on the encouraging words of a dearly departed teacher in Advance Composition and Writing during his senior year in high school.

Abyz D. Carreon is 27 years old.

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO...?

Fraud cases vs 14 foreigners

VIOLATIONS of the Securities Regulations Code were filed against 14 foreigners with the Makati Regional Trial Court Branch 137 on Feb. 22, 2001, for engaging in the business of buying and selling securities as broker or dealer without registering with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Charged by the Department of Justice with two counts of securities fraud were British nationals Dionne Paulette McLarty, Jonathan Dodson, Bruce Darcy Gabor Kaposy, Grayson Buckley, James Fallon, Geoffrey Missenden, Matthew Carter, Derek Warner, Hanna Sutherland, Kevin Turpin, Christopher Copeland; Czech Helena Ciskova; Italian Massimo Provenza; and Canadian Martin Patrick Totton.

Only Dodson, Kaposy, Totton and McLarty were able to present passports. All the accused were held at the detention center of the PNP-Criminal Investigation and Detection Group after they were arrested in their Makati office operating under the name Mendez Prior Europe (MPE) on Feb. 16.

The DOJ said the MPE, a foreign company organized under the laws of Lithuania, engaged in the business of buying and selling securities as a broker or dealer without proper registration. The DOJ learned of this when lawyer Matthew McEvily, on behalf of Pietro Leoni of Johannesburg, South Africa, filed a complaint against the MPE. He accused the firm of swindling his client of $145 million through fraudulent trading. The SEC said that the MPE had filed a petition to cancel its license to transact business in the country and the license was cancelled on Oct. 27, 2000.

With the exception of Totton, all the accused posted bail on Feb. 22, 2001. They were released the next day.

On Feb. 27, the court directed the BID to issue hold-departure orders against the accused. On the same day, defense lawyers filed a motion to quash.

In March 2001, the defense filed a motion to withdraw its motion to quash. It then filed a motion for preliminary investigation, which the court granted. The court, in a later order, also directed the DOJ to advise the court on the progress of the preliminary investigation.

Case status: State prosecutors have not yet concluded the preliminary investigation. The court noted that there were reports the accused had already left the country despite the hold-departure orders. Only Totton is still in the custody of the PNP-CIDG.

Armin P. Adina, PDI Research Department

Wrong symbols of Christianity

LETTERS

AN INQUIRER issue a week ago featured on its front page the image of Our Lady of the Abandoned being venerated in Marikina City. The life-size image of the Blessed Mother was adorned with what looked like real diamonds and other precious stones. Almost all images of the Blessed Mother in all Catholic churches are similarly an image of opulence.

Your May 20 issue featured another symbol of luxury in the Catholic Church: the new church of the parish of St. Francis Xavier in Nasugbu, Batangas. It was designed in the "old style" with a very rich interior of ornate columns, some "supporting nothing," intricate carvings and gilded wrought iron. (I grew up in a house fronting the same church when it still looked simple and welcoming.) Is this the structure and the image the Church of the Poor would like to project? No wonder most of the poor don't feel at home in the church.

Then, like a cool breeze in these sweltering summer days, your May 21 issue carried a front-page story, "British bishop sells mansion, returns to basics of faith." It was about Bishop Patric O. Donoghue, the Roman Catholic bishop of Lancaster, who was selling his $1.46-million official residence so that he could donate the proceeds to charity. He himself wanted to become a nomadic minister.

The bishop's move comes as a breath of fresh air. I hope that Christ's spirit of simplicity and care for the poor will blow unceasingly and be strong enough to sweep away the wrong symbols of Christianity.

—MA. GRACIA RIÑOZA-PLAZO, 62 Katipunan Ave., Loyola Grand Villas, Quezon City

Quick to issue traffic ticket

THIS is in connection with the news item, "Trader kills guard in tollgate rage" which appeared in the May 23 issue of your newspaper.

In this relation, may I bring to your attention what happened to me on May 10, 2002 between 5 and 5:30 p.m. We were on our way home from Calumpit, Bulacan to Manila when the rubber hose of our car's radiator got busted. Hence, we were constrained to stop at the side with hazard lights on to have it fixed. It didn't take us 15 minutes to fix the rubber hose. We were already refilling the radiator with water when a C.A. Allado approached us to give us a ticket for allegedly not having an early warning device. We explained the situation and told him that we have fixed the radiator hose and were ready to resume our journey. Without listening to our explanation, he confiscated my driver's license and issued me a ticket.

I strongly believe that there was no violation whatsoever on my part. It didn't take us 15 minutes to repair the hose and all the time the hazard lights were on. Instead of helping travelers on the road, as they always claim, they make incidents such as this an opportunity for them to "earn." No wonder one of their own had to pay dearly with his life.

May I call on the head of the Northern Luzon Expressway traffic enforcers to rectify this injustice done to me by returning my driver's license to where I am employed, the Department of Justice.

I hope that incidents like this will not happen again.

—JESUSA B. GO, technical staff, Department of Justice, Padre Faura, Manila

Poverty alleviation at its best?

JOINT Senate Resolution No. 8 adjusts all the 35 salary grades of positions in the civil service. This means that the lowest salary of janitors (Utility Worker I) will be raised from the present P5,000 to P10,000 a month, the threshold of poverty for a family of five.

This is poverty alleviation at its best! But this Senate resolution needs an executive order (EO) before it can be implemented. Is such an EO coming soon from Malacañang?

—T.B. ABAYAN, 13-A Banning St., North Fairview, Quezon City

IF you have any complaints, grievances or suggestions about the treatment of news and photos by the Inquirer, you may write to the Readers' Advocate, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces Avenue, corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, City of Makati or send a fax to Nos. 897-4793, 897-4794, or e-mail readersadvocate@inquirer.com.ph

Writers of letters to the editor are requested to include their complete address and telephone or pager number or e-mail address for verification purposes. The Inquirer will not publish any letter unless such information is supplied.

Ark ethics

PINOY KASI

Michael L. Tan

I THOUGHT I should comment on the exchange of letters here in the INQUIRER over GMA's recent "I-Witness" "*askal*" episode. (*Askal* is *asong kalye* or street dogs, actually used in a wider sense to refer to dogs that are not purebred.)

For those who may have missed the letters, it started when reader Oscar Lei wrote the INQUIRER complaining about the episode's footage showing dogs being slaughtered. GMA's Ellen Ongkeko-Marfil then responded, pointing out that "I-Witness" was actually speaking out against the maltreatment of the *askal*, even as the producers recognize that there are differences in people's perceptions of what a dog is—a pet, or food, or both.

I was interviewed for that episode and I had expressed my concerns that they might be airing scenes showing dogs being butchered. They told me they already shot such scenes but assured me they would not have anything as explicit as the scenes shown two or three years ago on another television network.

In the end, I intentionally missed the "I-Witness" episode because I saw the trailers and felt I would not be able to watch the documentary without getting depressed. At the same time, I will say that I respect GMA's own judgement on what could be shown.

I think it was important that GMA brought out that episode, if at least to remind us we passed an Animal Welfare Act a few years ago and that the law is hardly enforced. The act bans dog-eating but it does have a provision allowing certain practices if it is part of the local culture. The law also allows cock-fighting to continue.

In the interview I did admit I had mixed feelings about this dog-eating. My gut reaction, as a veterinarian and someone who has lived with dogs all my life, is to label the practice as barbaric and repulsive. On the other hand, as an anthropologist, I recognize that there are differences in the way people look at animals, including dogs, and that these differences are based on culture, class, maybe even gender.

The economic factor is strong: for poor people, the displays of affection for animals can seem almost senseless. This is not to say the poor have no compassion for animals. I have seen many touching relationships between humans and animals in urban poor communities, but the poor are not about to rush to the vet when their animals get sick, not when they can't afford a pediatrician for their children.

During the GMA interview I projected that you get more pet lovers as you move up the economic ladder. But I should say too that culture will remain a powerful force. For example, South Koreans, who are relatively affluent, still cling to dog-eating, believing a dog stew to be a health tonic.

There are specific and often complicated social and historical contexts to "ark ethics," a term that refers to discussions around animal welfare. The "ark" comes from the biblical story of Noah.

Some people love their dogs dearly but still eat dogs, or rather, other people's dogs. The *askal* becomes more vulnerable because it's seen as a mongrel, without an owner. Others have no problems seeing their dogs as both pets and as food. I will never forget an incident a few years back in a village in northern Luzon which I was visiting. One morning as I was preparing for the day's activities I saw a man calling out to his pet. The dog responded immediately and you could tell it was very fond of its master. I will not describe what happened next, except to say I was depressed for days and refused to eat anything that might have been meat.

You probably cringed reading that paragraph, thinking of how treacherous the dog owner was, but how do you reconcile your own love of animals and your eating chickens, pigs, cows and, goodness, lamb or should I bleat out, laaaammmbbbb? Humans are always rationalizing. Westerners sell chickens already slaughtered and dressed, without the neck and the head, to make sure dinner doesn't stare at them.

I am not saying that animal welfare is all relative to cultural beliefs. There is such a thing as "animal cruelty" but our definitions of what constitutes cruelty continue to evolve, spurred by public discussions and forums.

Our discussions should go beyond dog-eating. Dog slaughtering is brutal, but even more cruel is the way many pet dogs are treated in the Philippines, chained all day, beaten and kicked around, inadequately fed, its skin festering with fleas, sores and mange. Because dogs, especially the *askal*, are so sturdy, they can survive all this for many years.

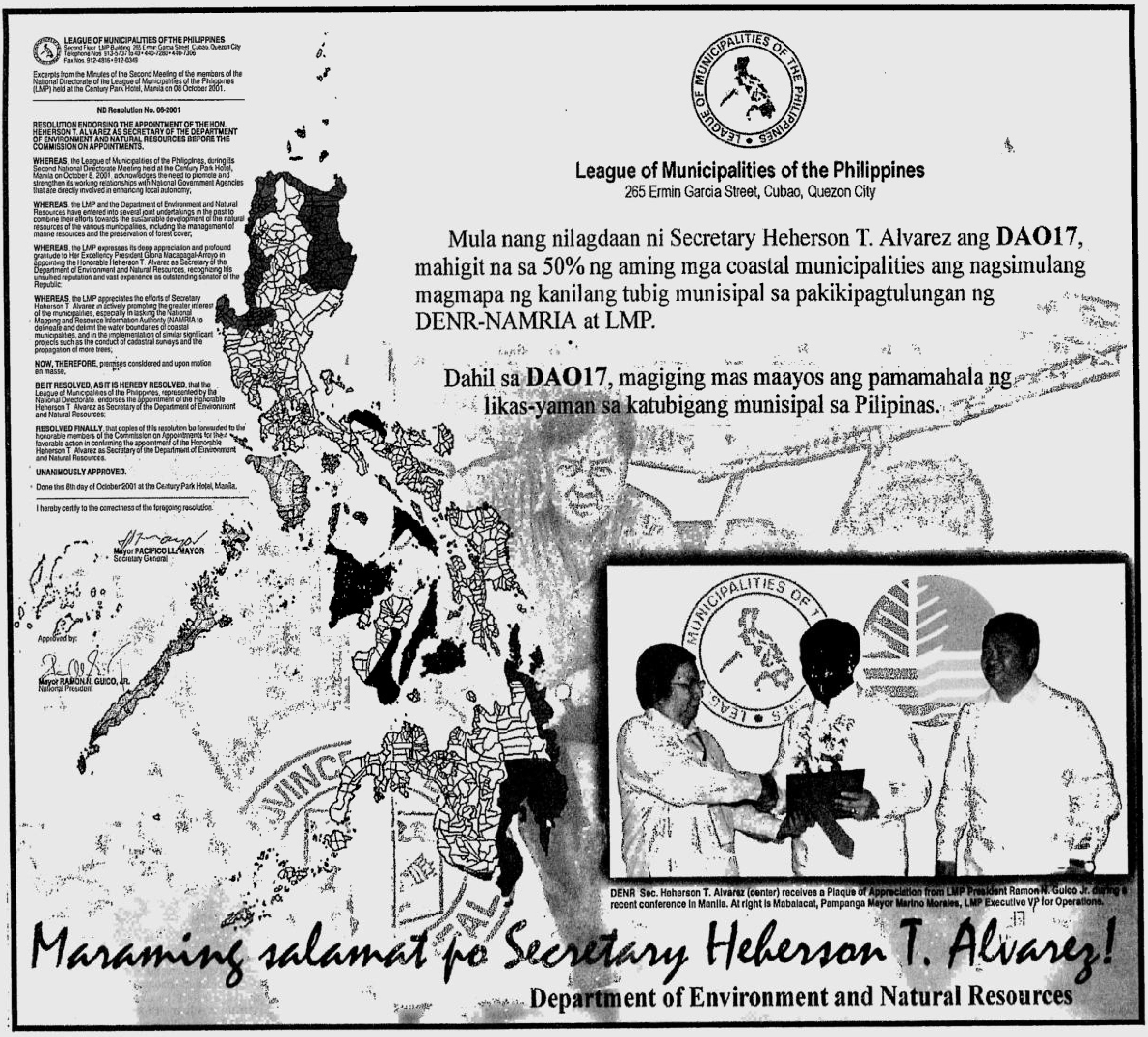
Even "animal lovers" may in fact end up maltreating animals without their knowing it. American psychologists are now talking about "animal hoarding syndrome," where people—usually lonely and asocial—go around adopting dozens of animals and not being able to care for them. There are many reports of police finally having to raid homes of these "animal lovers" to rescue dozens of sick and dying animals.

Sometimes the animal hoarding is caused not so much by a mental disorder than a lack of foresight. We start with one dog which gets pregnant and has all these cute puppies. The kids clamor to keep all of them so one dog becomes six, and the six become 20 in no time at all, with a few cats, Siberian hamsters and turtles competing on the side. Let's face it, given the limited living space we have, especially in the city, one dog or one cat may be more than enough. Overcrowding is very stressful, and more so for animals than for humans.

The debates over "ark ethics" will become more complicated as our ties with animals deepen and as we learn more about them. We will be forced to rethink our notions of compassion, rights, even what it means to be "human" or "animal." We are all Noahs with many arks, and many responsibilities.

* * *

Comments to miguel@pinoykasi.net



LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES OF THE PHILIPPINES
Second Floor LMP Building 265 Ermin Garcia Street, Cubao, Quezon City
Telephone Nos 913-5737 to 40 • 440-7280 • 440-7306
Fax Nos. 912-4816 • 912-6349

Excerpts from the Minutes of the Second Meeting of the members of the National Directorate of the League of Municipalities of the Philippines (LMP) held at the Century Park Hotel, Manila on 08 October 2001.

ND Resolution No. 06-2001

RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE APPOINTMENT OF THE HON. HEHERSON T. ALVAREZ AS SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES BEFORE THE COMMISSION ON APPOINTMENTS.

WHEREAS, the League of Municipalities of the Philippines, during its Second National Directorate Meeting held at the Century Park Hotel, Manila on October 8, 2001, acknowledges the need to promote and strengthen its working relationships with National Government Agencies that are directly involved in enhancing local autonomy;

WHEREAS, the LMP and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources have entered into several joint undertakings in the past to combine their efforts towards the sustainable development of the natural resources of the various municipalities, including the management of marine resources and the preservation of forest cover;

WHEREAS, the LMP expresses its deep appreciation and profound gratitude to Her Excellency President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo in appointing the Honorable Heherson T. Alvarez as Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, recognizing his unsullied reputation and vast experience as outstanding senator of the Republic;

WHEREAS, the LMP appreciates the efforts of Secretary Heherson T. Alvarez in actively promoting the greater interest of the municipalities, especially in tasking the National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA to delineate and delimit the water boundaries of coastal municipalities, and in the implementation of similar significant projects such as the conduct of cadastral surveys and the propagation of more trees;

NOW, THEREFORE, premises considered and upon motion en masse,

BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the League of Municipalities of the Philippines, represented by the National Directorate, endorses the appointment of the Honorable Heherson T. Alvarez as Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources;

RESOLVED FINALLY, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the honorable members of the Commission on Appointments for their favorable action in confirming the appointment of the Honorable Heherson T. Alvarez as Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

Done this 8th day of October 2001 at the Century Park Hotel, Manila.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing resolution.

Mayor PACIFICO LL. MAYOR
Secretary General

Approved by:

Mayor RAMON N. GUICO, JR.
National President

League of Municipalities of the Philippines
265 Ermin Garcia Street, Cubao, Quezon City

Mula nang nilagdaan ni Secretary Heherson T. Alvarez ang **DAO17**, mahigit na sa 50% ng aming mga coastal municipalities ang nagsimulang magmapa ng kanilang tubig munisipal sa pakikipagtulungan ng DENR-NAMRIA at LMP.

Dahil sa **DAO17**, magiging mas maayos ang pamamahala ng likas-yaman sa katubigang munisipal sa Pilipinas.

DENR Sec. Heherson T. Alvarez (center) receives a Plaque of Appreciation from LMP President Ramon N. Guico Jr. during a recent conference in Manila. At right is Mabalacat, Pampanga Mayor Marino Morales, LMP Executive VP for Operations.

Maraming salamat po Secretary Heherson T. Alvarez!

Department of Environment and Natural Resources

The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

Hardliner elected president of Colombia

URIBE: He has a score to settle with rebels. REUTERS

BOGOTA—Colombians willing to endure a bloodier war in order to crush a 38-year-old guerrilla insurgency elected as president Alvaro Uribe, a hardliner promising to impose law and order on the unruly South American nation.

"By God, from this point we will begin to convert our plans into democratic security for all," the 49-year-old president-elect said in a somber victory speech, during which he recalled the 1983 murder of his father by rebels in an apparent kidnapping attempt.

With 98 percent of the votes counted in Sunday's election, officials said Uribe had 52.8 percent, compared to 31.8 percent for former Interior Minister Horacio Serpa—his closest challenger. The majority vote gave Uribe an outright victory and averted a runoff next month.

Serpa conceded defeat to his campaign workers while Uribe supporters drove through Bogota with campaign posters plastered on their windows, honking their horns in celebration. "This is the beginning of a new country!" shouted Enrique Vergara, a publicist.

"We are going to defeat the violent ones!"

Earlier in the day, Uribe had cast his ballot in Bogota, guarded by a phalanx of police and soldiers "Colombian democracy is very beautiful—the people have a profound sense of democracy," said Uribe, who has also promised to double the strength of the armed forces and seek wider US military aid.

Before Uribe was even declared the winner, US Ambassador Anne Patterson went to a hotel where he was holed up with campaign workers to congratulate him.

"It looks like he's ahead by a very significant amount and I'm here to congratulate him," Patterson said, predicting that Washington would have "very close" relations with an Uribe administration. The results of the vote showed that "Colombians are fed up of terrorism," she said.

Although voting was orderly in most of Colombia, rebels dynamited the election headquarters in the northern town of San Luis, killing a woman.

Rebels also placed car bombs on at least four roads connecting provincial capitals. Voting in six remote southern counties was suspended after the rebels destroyed voting materials. Scattered clashes between rebels and army troops were also reported, in which two rebels were killed and two soldiers wounded.

"Today is a test of fire, because democracy is seriously threatened," said Santiago Murray, chief of election observers from the Organization of American States. *AP*

HEAR MORE, PAY LESS!

Hearing Loss?

"invisible" hearing aid from Sountex

* Virtually invisible, all digital
* Hearing-aids exclusively by Siemens
* Crystal clear speech recognition
* No unwanted background noise

Call our caring and experienced consultants for a FREE no obligation computerized hearing assessment.
• Discounts, Installments & Trade-ins Available
• Lifetime Free Service and Batteries*
* With every regular half yearly check-up.

CALL FOR A FREE HEARING TEST TODAY!
Robinsons Ortigas: 635-9033
Makati: 867-1916

SOUNtex
THE HEARING CARE PROFESSIONALS

Apply for a BPI Credit Card now and

your signature could be worth

₱

BPI Express Credit
Petron
BANK OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS
BPI e-Credit
MasterCard

,

You've always wanted a BPI Credit Card and now is the best time to get one.

Aside from the regular credit line, get an S.I.P. (Special Installment Plan),

and a chance to win P100,000 every week.

How to win P100,000 :-

1. Apply now for a BPI Credit Card.
2. To qualify for the raffle promo, your application must be submitted and approved within the promo period. Credit Card account must be active, not suspended or cancelled during the promo period.
3. Promo period is from May 15 to June 25, 2002.
4. Approved applications will be automatically assigned one computer generated raffle number.
5. There will be one prize - P100,000.00 - drawn every week for six weeks. Raffle draws will be held on (all in the year 2002) :
   - June 21, 28
   - July 5, 12, 19, 26
6. The P100,000.00 prize will be credited to your BPI Credit Card account and will be reflected in your succeeding statement of account.
7. A cardholder can only win once within the promo period. Non-winning entries per draw are still qualified for the succeeding draws. Winners will be notified via registered mail.
8. All prizes are tax-free.
9. All officers and employees of BPI, Corp. Guaranteed card applicants, BPI's advertising agencies and their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified from joining the raffle.
10. In case of dispute, the decision of BPI Card with the concurrence of DTI shall be considered final.

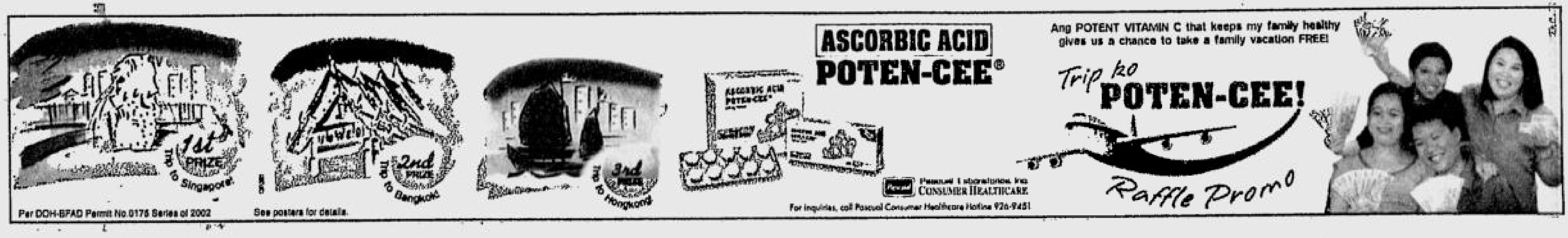
Per DTI - NCR Permit No. 0927 Series of 2002.

BPI Express Credit Card
The most sensible card to carry around with a low monthly finance charge, no surcharges on appliance purchases and other great deals. Plus, it's the only credit card accepted in Makro.

Petron-BPI MasterCard
The only full service motorist card that gives you 2% fuel rebates, free 24-hour towing and roadside assistance and discounts on Petron lubes and services.

BPI MasterCard
The credit card you can use here and abroad that comes with a free **E-Credit Card**, the only limited risk web-shopping card.

Apply for a BPI Credit Card now! Visit the nearest BPI or BPI Family Bank branch or www.bpiexpressonline.com. BPI and BPI Family Bank Metro Manila depositors can call 89-100 to apply.

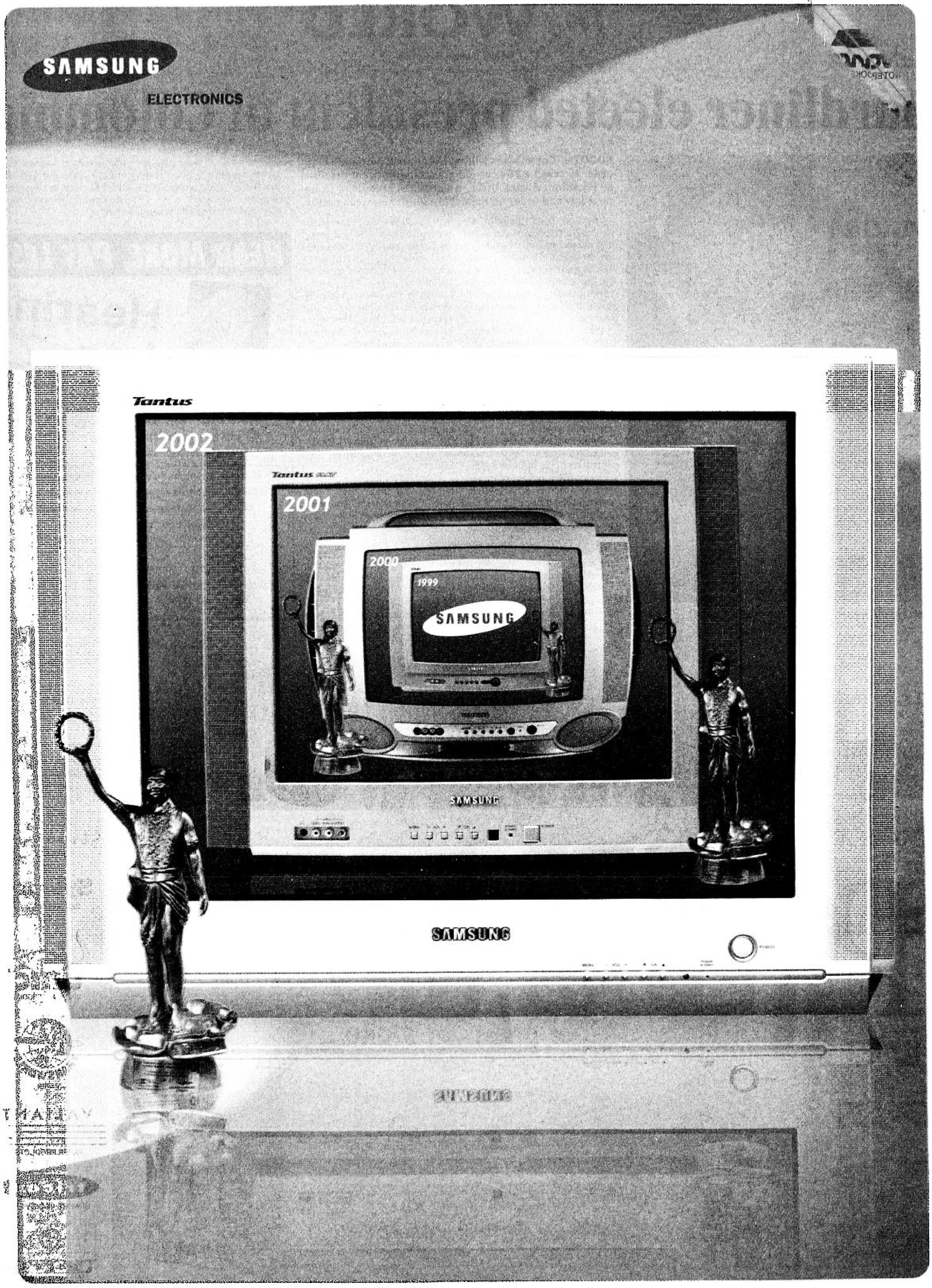

1st PRIZE Trip to Singapore
2nd PRIZE Trip to Bangkok
3rd PRIZE Trip to Hongkong
ASCORBIC ACID POTEN-CEE
Trip ko POTEN-CEE!
Raffle Promo

ASCORBIC ACID
POTEN-CEE®

Ang POTENT VITAMIN C that keeps my family healthy gives us a chance to take a family vacation FREE!

Pascual Laboratories Inc. CONSUMER HEALTHCARE
For inquiries, call Pascual Consumer Healthcare Hotline 926-9451

Per DOH-BFAD Permit No.0176 Series of 2002
See posters for details.



WATCH WHAT WE DID 4 YEARS IN A ROW.

CONSECUTIVE YEARS
4
1999•2000•2001•2002

For the fourth year in a row, SAMSUNG wins the **Most Outstanding Manufacturer of Television Award** in the Annual National Consumers Awards of the Consumer Union of the Philippines. And it comes as no surprise. That's because we know what consumers like you watch out for in televisions – amazing features at affordable prices.

SAMSUNG DIGITall
everyone's invited™
www.samsungelectronics.com

CONSUMER
UNION OF THE
PHILIPPINES

Amazing, affordable and accessible television technology. It's what you can expect only from SAMSUNG.

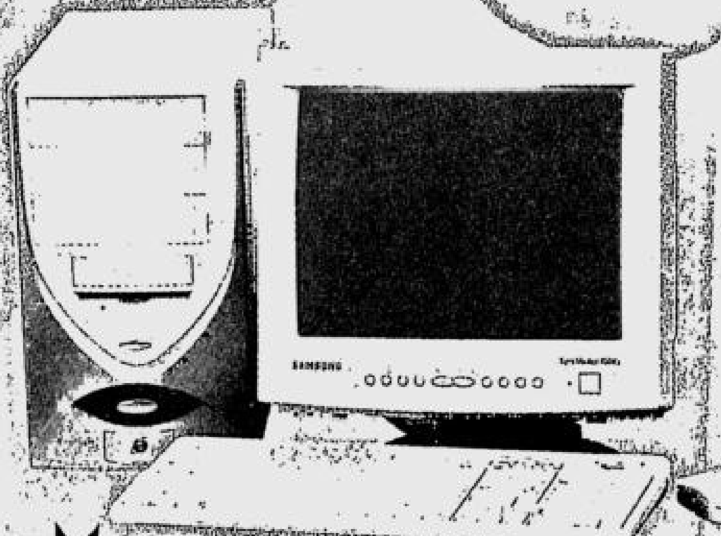
Samsung Electronics Philippines Corporation Ground Floor, Bonaventure Plaza, Ortigas Avenue, Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila
Tel. Nos. 722-7777 • Fax No. 722-9392 • For customer service, dial **S-A-M-S-U-N-G** (726-7864).

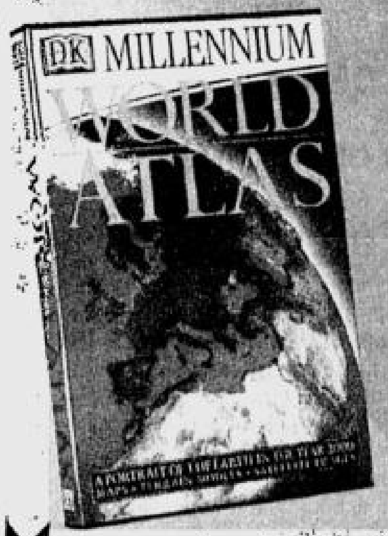
Be one of 50 lucky winners who will receive a *P50,000.00 cash scholarship!

BACK-TO-SCHOOL

TUITION FREE*

other prizes at stake...





50 Pentium III 1Ghz Computers

50 palm m125s

50 copies DK World Atlas Millennium Edition

Buy P500.00 worth with any of the participating products marked with this sticker and get a raffle coupon!

HURRY! From May 15 to June 30, 2002 only!

BACK-TO-SCHOOL back to

National Book Store

www.nationalbookstore.com

See leaflets for details.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1398, Series of 2002.

3M
SCOTCH TAPES

advance
NOTEBOOKS

Artline
HIGH PERFORMANCE MARKERS

Aspen
NOTEBOOKS

AURORA
"Quality Products with Great Value"
CALCULATORS

Bensia
WRITING INSTRUMENTS

BEST BUY
NOTEBOOKS

BiC
WRITING INSTRUMENTS

CAMEL
CRAYONS

Campus Mates
NOTEBOOKS & BINDERS

Cattleya
NOTEBOOKS & BINDERS

CORONA
NOTEBOOKS

SUPREME QUALITY CROCO TAPE

DONG-A
WRITING INSTRUMENTS

ELMER'S
GLUE

FABER-CASTELL
since 1761
ART SUPPLIES

HI-TEC
TAPES

INOXCROM
WRITING INSTRUMENTS

Jardin Notes
NOTEBOOKS

KING JIM

LI'L HANDS
ARTS & CRAFTS

Marc
TYPEWRITING PAPER

LEONE
GEL PEN

maxell
DISKETTES & CDs

merit
NOTEBOOKS

Mr. MaGloo
GLUE & CORRECTION TAPE

MSA
REVIEW BOOKS

Orange

Panda

PAPER One
ALL PURPOSE PAPER

Pentel
WRITING INSTRUMENTS

PILOT
WRITING INSTRUMENTS

Pritt

rotring
DRAWING & WRITING INSTRUMENTS

Seagull
NOTEBOOKS

SHARP
CALCULATORS

Sterling
NOTEBOOKS

Stick-ee
GLUE

Stradmore
NOTEBOOKS

Sysmax
DESK ACCESSORIES

unic
SPIRAL NOTEBOOKS

TRANSWORLD
PAPER

VALIANT
PAPER PRODUCTS

tricon
HI-WHITE BOOKPAPER

veco
PAPER CORPORATION
NOTEBOOKS

uni
Writing Instruments

VERNAL PRODUCTS
PAD PAPER

NOTEBOOKS

Yasaka
PAD PAPERS

ZEBRA
WRITING INSTRUMENTS

India, Pakistan exchange heavy fire in Kashmir

JAMMU, India—Indian and Pakistani troops exchanged heavy mortar, artillery and machinegun fire Monday on the Kashmir frontier, and fired across their international border, Indian Army officers said.

Reports from Indian Army officers in Jammu and Srinagar, the winter and summer capitals of India's Jammu-Kashmir state, indicated heavy shelling from Naushahra in the southwest to Dras in the north, extending 280 km along the ceasefire line that divides the Himayalan region of Kashmir.

There were conflicting reports on the number of casualties in fighting over the past two days, with Pakistan saying it killed 40 Indian soldiers in intense fighting on Sunday. But Indian officers denied they had suffered any casualties on that day.

Indian and Pakistani Army statements agreed that the firing had extended along the international border that separates the two nuclear-armed nations in Kashmir and southward into Punjab province on Sunday.

The Indian officers said machine-gun firing continued across the border on Monday in Kashmir, but at a lower level than along the ceasefire line.

Pakistan's Army made no statement on Monday's fighting, but reported intense fighting Sunday, including with rocket launchers.

The Pakistan Army said India targeted several villages Sunday, killing nine civilians, including two women, and injuring 42 others.

Pakistan said it retaliated, targeting Indian gun positions and that Indian forces had been pushed back from the frontier.

The Indian officers said they lost no casualties on Sunday but that an inspector of the Border Security Force died in Monday's exchanges, and five civilians were wounded in Naushahra.

Both statements said civilians were injured and their homes and other buildings were damaged. Dozens of civilians have been killed on both sides during the past two weeks.

Both forces have been on war alert since December, after a deadly attack on the Indian Parliament, which India blamed on Pakistan and Islamic militants based on its territory.

India conducted missile tests in January and Pakistan has been conducting them since Saturday, raising fears of another war.

Kashmir, a Himalayan region divided between Pakistan and India, has been the flash point of two wars between them, in 1948 and in 1965.

The Indian officers said firing of mortar and artillery shells, along with medium and heavy machineguns, lasted several hours on Monday in the mountainous Naushahra and Punch sectors, northwest of Jammu.

India's Jammu-Kashmir state government said about 50,000 villagers have fled their homes near the border and were staying in schools or with relatives and friends. Thousands of villagers have also fled on the Pakistani side.

India's powerful Home Minister Lal Krishna Advani was quoted as saying Monday that he has told American officials—who are worried about a new war between India and Pakistan—that a conflict waged against India by Pakistan-backed Islamic militants has been going on for 12 years.

"The war has been declared by Pakistan and terrorists. Now the questions is whether we should fight it the way we have been fighting or adopt another way," the Press Trust of India news agency quoted Advani as telling a youth group in New Delhi.

He added, "Time has come to adopt another way to fight the war" and told the youths, "The situation is challenging, not normal." **AP**

Israeli soldiers reenter Bethlehem

BETHLEHEM, West Bank—Israeli troops hunting suspected Palestinian militants raided the West Bank city of Bethlehem early Monday as part of what the military said are pinpointed, intelligence-driven incursions into Palestinian areas.

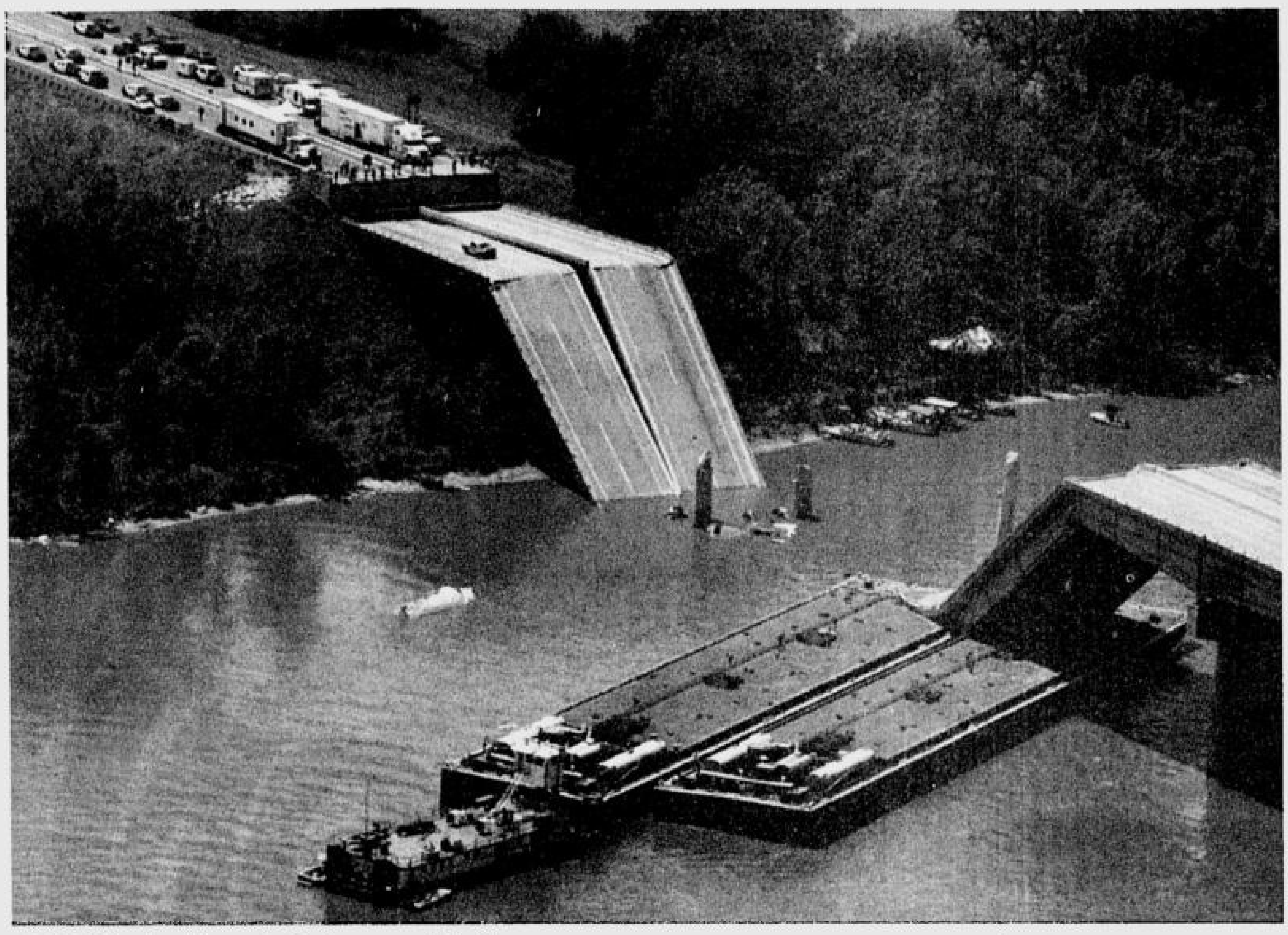
Defense Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer said despite continued warnings about plans by Palestinian militants to carry out suicide attacks, Israel was not on the verge of another large-scale military operation on par with the six-week "Defensive Shield" offensive which ended earlier this month.

Dozens of armored vehicles and jeeps drove into Bethlehem and surrounding towns and refugee camps before dawn Monday and imposed a curfew on tens of thousands of Palestinians in the second incursion into the area two days. The city had been under Israeli control for nearly six weeks during the previous offensive.

Israeli troops blocked access to Bethlehem's Church of the Nativity, built over Jesus' traditional birth grotto, to prevent another standoff at the shrine with Palestinian gunmen. During "Defensive Shield," armed Palestinians fleeing advancing Israeli troops were holed up inside the shrine for 39 days.

In the Dheisheh refugee camp, Israeli troops arrested Ahmed Mughrabi, a local leader of the Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigade, a militia linked to Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement, residents said. Mughrabi is suspected by Israel of having recruiting two suicide bombers in Dheisheh, camp residents said.

In the adjacent town of Beit Sahour, troops commandeered a high-rise building and shut down a local radio station located inside, residents said. **AP**



A BARGE is pinned beneath the Interstate 40 bridge. REUTERS

Barge crashes into Arkansas River bridge

WEBBERS FALLS, Oklahoma—A barge hit an interstate bridge over the Arkansas River during a storm, collapsing a 150-meter section of roadway and sending about a dozen vehicles plunging into the water with people trapped inside, authorities said.

Crews pulled two cars and a motor home from the water Sunday evening and found three bodies, said Lt. Chris West, a spokesperson for the Oklahoma Highway Patrol.

Officials expected to find a total of five to 12 bodies in the submerged vehicles but said it would likely be Monday or Tuesday before all the victims could be removed.

Cranes were brought in to stabilize the two bridge sections that slanted from Interstate 40 into the river as divers struggled Sunday afternoon against a strong current in the murky, 3.3-meter-deep water, said Rebecca Smith, a spokesperson for Muskogee County Emergency Management Services.

At least five people were being treated at hospitals, including some who had been rescued from the river as boatmen alerted authorities to the collapse of the section of the 596-meter bridge shortly before 8 a.m. Sunday.

Oklahoma Gov. Frank Keating, who visited the area Sunday afternoon, said the captain of the barge might have had a seizure and blacked out just before the barge rammed a column supporting the bridge.

It wasn't clear whether the storm and fast-moving river water contributed to the crash.

"The loss of life is something that is unbearable for all of us because these are people traveling on Memorial Day from all over the country," the governor said. "It is a sad day for all of us."

Josef Blann, a diver with the Marine Corps Reserve, said authorities believed 15 vehicles went into the river, including 12 cars, two tractor-trailer rigs and a horse trailer. Keating said the total number could be as low at nine.

Three dead horses were pulled out of the water, West said. The recovery effort was suspended Sunday night and will resume at daylight Monday, he said.

Two bridge pilings in the water were knocked down, and one piling on the bank was tilted. The damaged pilings were all on the west end of the bridge. **AP**

FBI ability to combat terrorism questioned

WASHINGTON—The FBI—whose director is preparing a plan to overhaul the agency—must go through a "big learning curve" to be adequately equipped to fight terrorism, a key congressman says.

House intelligence committee chair Porter Goss' remarks Sunday came as Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle disclosed that President George W. Bush asked him not to seek an outside commission to investigate pre-Sept. 11 intelligence failures.

Goss, speaking on "Fox News Sunday," said he didn't think the FBI was capable at this point of doing the intelligence work necessary to fight domestic terrorism.

"I think they've got to go through a big learning curve, a lot of readjustment," said Goss, a Republican from Florida.

The FBI said Sunday that Director Robert Mueller would soon announce his plan to reorganize the agency to better combat terrorism. It will include a new team in Washington to centralize antiterrorist efforts and ensure all intelligence is evaluated thoroughly, officials have said. **AP**

Ice detected on Mars underground

WASHINGTON—Nasa's Mars Odyssey spacecraft has reportedly detected water ice under the surface of the red planet, according to scientific papers to be published this week, a finding that could be a giant step in exploration of Mars.

Many astronomers believe Mars used to have quantities of liquid water on its surface, but they have never agreed on where the water went. Research to be published in this week's edition of the journal Science may help answer that question.

Liquid water is seen as a prerequisite for Earth-type life on a planet. Underground water ice could be a key to understanding how Mars developed and could inform future exploratory missions.

While full technical details will not be made public until Thursday, the detection of sub-surface water ice on Mars is just what Mars Odyssey was sent into space to investigate. ***Reuters***

WORLDBRIEFS

Punishment works on mother

LONDON—The adult daughter of a woman jailed for not stopping her children from skipping school said Monday that the sentence had convinced her truant sisters to return to class. Patricia Amos, 43, was sentenced to 60 days in jail earlier this month for failing to ensure that her daughters Jackie, 13, and Emma, 15, regularly attended school. A judge later reduced her sentence, and she was released last week after serving 14 days. Amos was believed to be the first parent imprisoned under a new anti-truancy law, part of Prime Minister Tony Blair's campaign to return order to schools. Amos' eldest daughter, Cerry Cowman, said the sentence had convinced her younger sisters to return to school. They have been devastated by it all. I suppose in one sense it has worked, it has got them back to school, and it has helped with my mum, because she is facing up to her problems now," Cowman, 25, told British Broadcasting Corp. radio. ***AP***

13 foreigners held in Brunei

CANBERRA, Australia—Thirteen foreigners hired to investigate business affairs of Brunei's royal family have been told they cannot leave the country, Australia's foreign minister said Monday. The group includes three Australians, at least one Malaysian and several Britons and New Zealanders, who were told by Brunei officials they were being investigated for visa irregularities, diplomats in Brunei said, speaking on condition of anonymity. The number of people from Briton and New Zealand was not immediately clear. Australian Foreign Minister Alexander Downer told reporters in the Australian capital, Canberra, that the group of 13 consultants were "looking into some of the business affairs of the royal family in Brunei," but that he had no further details. "These people are not being detained . . . but they are not able to leave the country subject to investigations by the Brunei authorities," he said. It was not clear whether they had surrendered their passports. ***AP***

Dracula park

SIGHISOARA, Romania—Dracula's enduring appeal may change the face of the Transylvanian town where he was born if plans for a theme park inspired by the bloodsucking Count get off the ground. Featuring a ghost castle with torture chambers, scary attractions and restaurants serving fried brains, "horror jelly" and blood-red cocktails, the $32-million project involves developing a hilltop site near mediaeval Sighisoara. "The Dracula Park will be built here," proclaims a big banner placed by the Romanian Tourism Ministry on the 60-hectare site, also a forest reserve home to ancient oaks. Easier said than done. Infrastructure is poor, the nearest airport is hours away and investment is hard to come by. This month, the Tourism Ministry said it had raised $3.21 million from a public share offering intended to fund the project—much less than it hoped. ***Reuters***

Sokor official arrested for bribery

SEOUL—A corruption scandal allegedly involving a son of President Kim Dae-jung has widened with the arrest of a high-ranking government official on bribery charges.

Lee Hong-seok, assistant minister of culture and tourism, was arrested on suspicion that he received $13,000 from a sports lottery operator.

Lee, who was arrested Sunday, allegedly helped a company called Tiger Pools Korea win a sports lottery license in early 2001.

Kim Hong-gul, the youngest of the president's three sons, was arrested May 18 on charges of receiving millions of dollars from Choi Kyu-sun, a lobbyist under arrest on bribery charges. Choi allegedly bribed Kim Hong-gul to also help Tiger Pools win the lottery license.

Lee was the first government official arrested in a bribery scandal surrounding Tiger Pools president Song Jae-bin, who was arrested early this month on charges of embezzling company funds.

It was the latest in a series of financial scandals that have implicated government officials and some of President Kim's sons, and comes ahead of local elections in June and presidential polls in December.

President Kim has not been directly implicated in any scandal. His single five-year term ends in February, and by law he cannot seek reelection.

Local media quoted prosecutors as saying that Kim Hong-gul acknowledged receiving at least $2.1 million from Choi and other businessmen, but denied that he peddled influence in return for the money. **AP**

Searchers near black boxes

PENGHU, Taiwan—Minesweeping ships helped investigators search Monday for the "black box" voice and flight data recorders from a China Airlines jet that split apart high over the Taiwan Strait and crashed, killing all 225 people on board.

Beacon signals from the devices were detected about 55 meters beneath the water, 37 km north of the Penghu island chain off Taiwan's western coast, said David Lee, the lead investigator for Taiwan's Aviation Safety Council.

Flight CI611 broke into four pieces at 9,000 meters about 20 minutes after taking off Saturday from Taipei, officials said.

Investigators hope the black boxes will provide clues to why the Boeing 747-200 crashed. **AP**

RESCUERS load the body of a crash victim on a truck after it was identified by relatives on Penghu island. AP

Northern Luzon Bureau
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio
Tel. No. (074) 443-9255
Fax No. (074) 443-8971
E-mail: inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

Southern Luzon Bureau
36 Aurora St.,Old Albay District
Legazpi City
Tel. No . (052) 820-8402
Fax No. (052) 820-1274
E-mail: inq_bicol@inquirer.com.ph

Across the NATION

Assistant Editor **Tony Bergonia**

Visayas Bureau
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
E-mail: pdivis@skyinet.net

Mindanao Bureau
FEP Printing Corp. Bldg.
Ma-a Road, Davao City
Tel. Nos. (082) 244-1770 to 71,
Fax no. (082) 2441771
E-mail:
pdiminda@dv.weblinq.com

Surigao cultists prevent arrest of legislator's son

By Jhunnex Napallacan, *PDI Visayas Bureau*
and Franklin Caliguid, *PDI Mindanao Bureau*

CEBU CITY—A 30-man police team sent to arrest Ruben Ecleo Jr., cult leader and son of a legislator, was no match for thousands of cultists who gathered at the wharf to meet the law enforcers and who surrounded Ecleo's house.

The team, led by policemen from this city, went on Saturday to Dinagat Island, Surigao del Norte to arrest Ecleo Jr. but failed to do so because of the overwhelming presence of members of the Philippine Benevolent Missionaries Association, the cult headed by Ecleo Jr.

At least 30,000 cultists had surrounded since Friday night the house of Ecleo in Barangay San Jose to defend their "Divine Master, " police said.

The Ecleo mansion, called the "White House," is located on top that has a view of the whole island.

A team from the Criminal Investigation and Detention Group from Central Visayas (CIDG-7), supported by troops from the Surigao del Norte Provincial Police Office, went to Dinagat Island on Saturday on board a hired pump boat to search the house of Ecleo, who was wanted in Cebu City for the murder of his wife.

Ecleo, 42, whose whereabouts remained unknown, has maintained he had no hand in the killing of his wife Alona Bacolod-Ecleo, 27, whose body was found inside a garbage bag abandoned at a roadside lot in Dalaguete, Cebu on Jan. 5.

'Supreme Master'

PBMA members insisted that they were ready to shed blood and die for their "Supreme Master."

Ecleo's mother, Rep. Glenda Ecleo, told the police team that her son was no longer on the island.

Representative Ecleo did not only welcome the police team into her house but even fed them *lechon* (roasted pig) for lunch.

The policemen led by Supt. Edwin Dioces, the CIDG-7 chief, accepted the meal to ease the tension and to show that they were not siding with anyone but were merely effecting a Cebu Regional Trial Court's warrant for Ecleo Jr.'s arrest.

Dioces said they also decided against searching the island for Ecleo, saying it was too risky as they were clearly outnumbered by the PBMA members.

Representative Ecleo said her son left the island last May 21 to prevent violence in case police came to arrest him.

But the policemen are convinced that he was just hiding on Dinagat Island.

Commando

Dioces said a "commando" type of operation could succeed in getting the cult leader. But should this fail, he said they might just take the "final option:" A large-scale joint police and military operation.

This would mean bringing a sizeable number of troops from the elite Police Special Action Force, to be assisted by the Philippine Navy and the Philippine Air Force.

Lawyer Orlando Salatandre, Ecleo Jr.'s legal counsel, has been asking the police to defer the arrest of his client as he has a pending petition before the Court of Appeals questioning the issuance of the arrest warrant.

He said that if the higher court would decide that the warrant was legal, he himself would bring Ecleo Jr. to the police.

But Dioces said that unless ordered by higher police authorities or by the court, their "mission" was still to find and arrest the fugitive cult leader.

Chief Supt. Alberto Olario, police chief for the Caraga Region, said Saturday's action was part of their "peaceful efforts to prevent bloody confrontation and harm."

Ecleo Jr. is the supreme master of the anti-communist cult PBMA based in San Jose town.

3 million members

The cult has more than 3 million members and 400 chapters nationwide, according to the police.

But Sen. Robert Barbers, who is also from Surigao, in an interview said Ruben Jr., "can't be hiding forever" and must face the charges filed against him.

Militants score Monsanto meeting with local policy makers

NAGA CITY—At least two militant groups in Bicol yesterday scored Monsanto for alleged influence peddling by hosting a cocktail party for local policy makers and known advocates against the propagation of genetically modified organisms (GMO) at the Hotel Intercontinental today.

Willy Marbella, secretary general of the militant Kilusang Magbubukid sa Bikol, said several governors, anti-GMO advocates and church leaders from Bicol are to be met by top Monsanto officials in Southeast Asia.

Marbella said among the invited personalities are Gov. Al Francis Bichara, Archbishop of Caceres Msgr. Leonardo Legaspi and Bishop Jesus Varela of Sorsogon.

He claimed that Monsanto is employing a sophisticated tactic of bringing together these important personalities in Bicol to convince them to support the commercial propagation of Bt-corn and field testing of genetically modified rice.

Marbella further claimed that even before the local governments in Bicol could approve the commercial propagation of Bt-corn, Monsanto has already prepared the groundwork in Camarines Norte.

He said the importance of the cocktail party to Monsanto's GMO commercial venture in Bicol is indicated by the presence of top officials like Benette D. Begemanh, president for Asia Pacific, Allan T. Smith, director for South East Asia, and Juan Ferreira, country director in the Philippines.

"We don't really know what are at stake here. But we are sure that this so-called cocktail party is a major move of Monsanto to aggressively sell the GMO commercial propagation," Marbella said.

Joel Batanes, spokesperson of the anti-GMO alliance called Bicol-Resist, said they have also received reports that some radio personalities in Naga City have been contacted to promote in their radio programs the advantages of GMO propagation.

Batanes said that in cahoots with the agrochemical companies that promote GMO propagation, some radio stations were at least paid P25,000 a month to do propaganda work.

Monsanto could not be contacted immediately for comments on the allegations hurled against the second biggest agrochemical firm in the world that promotes GMO propagation.

Monsanto last year figured in a scandal in Panagan, Tigaon, Camarines Sur when it proceeded to field-test the Bt-corn without the knowledge of the Department of Agriculture regional office. ***Juan Escandor Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

Tagbilaran dads OK stop to reclamation

TAGBILARAN CITY—This city's council has voted to temporarily shelve the controversial Tagbilaran Bay Reclamation Project (TBRP), averting a crisis that threatened to divide the legislative body.

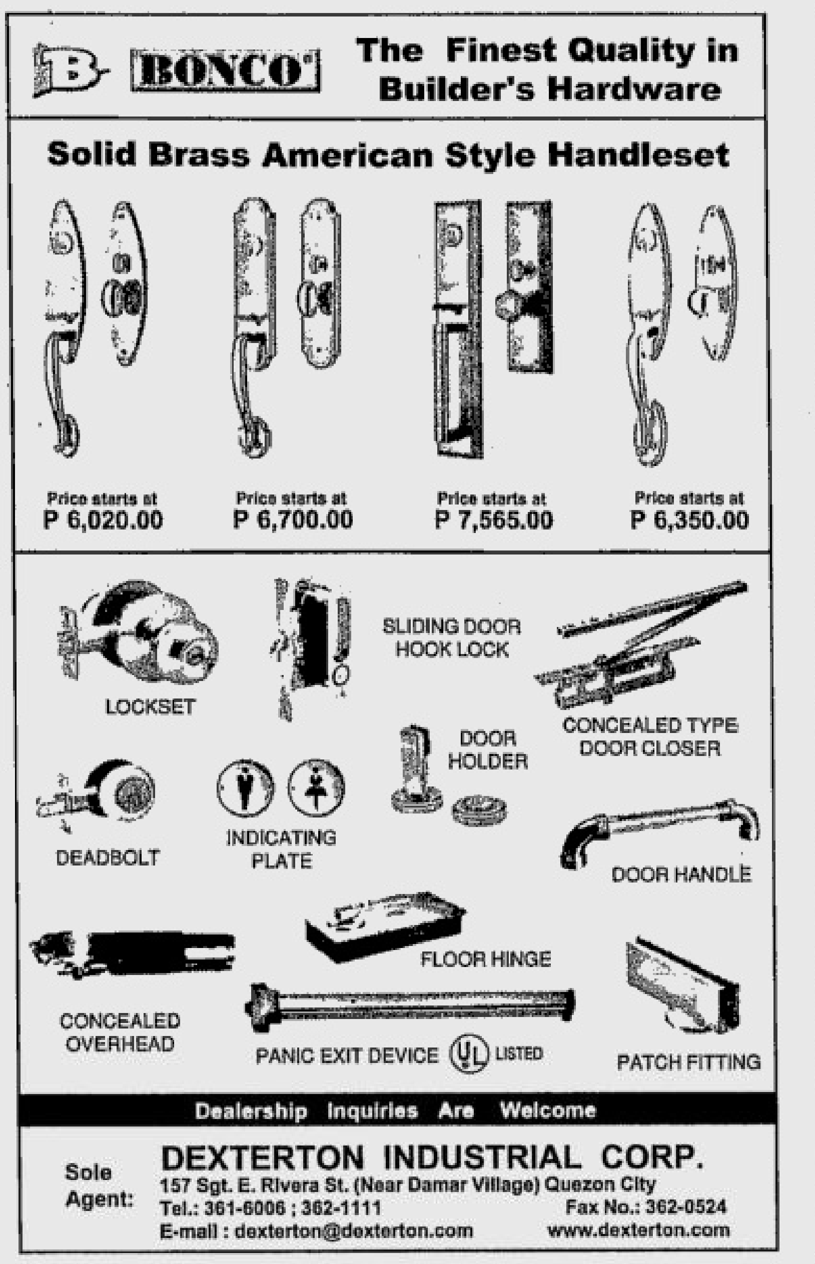
The move came immediately after the council decided to "respectfully deny" the request of Mayor Jose Torralba for authority to sign the memorandum of agreement with the Public Estates Authority (PEA) for the TBRP.

In the two resolutions that were unanimously approved, the council said the TBRP runs counter to Tagbilaran City's mission statement to sustain an "environment friendly society."

"The proposed TBRP will directly affect the seashore and beaches of the neighboring town of Dauis, since sea current will become stronger as the Tagbilaran Strait becomes narrower," the resolutions added.

The resolutions also said that there were still large tracts of land in the city that are still to be developed since commercial development was concentrated in the barangays of Poblacion I, II and III and Cogon.

Both measures were approved just as debates between TBRP supporters and opponents during council sessions were becoming increasingly emotional. ***Chito A. Fuentes, PDI Visayas Bureau***



BONCO® The Finest Quality in Builder's Hardware

Solid Brass American Style Handleset

Price starts at P 6,020.00
Price starts at P 6,700.00
Price starts at P 7,565.00
Price starts at P 6,350.00

LOCKSET
SLIDING DOOR HOOK LOCK
CONCEALED TYPE DOOR CLOSER
DOOR HOLDER
DEADBOLT
INDICATING PLATE
DOOR HANDLE
FLOOR HINGE
CONCEALED OVERHEAD
PANIC EXIT DEVICE UL LISTED
PATCH FITTING

Dealership Inquiries Are Welcome

Sole Agent: DEXTERTON INDUSTRIAL CORP.
157 Sgt. E. Rivera St. (Near Damar Village) Quezon City
Tel.: 361-6006 ; 362-1111 Fax No.: 362-0524
E-mail : dexterton@dexterton.com www.dexterton.com

S-TANK • UniTank
STAINLESS STEEL STORAGE WATER TANKS
• NON CORROSIVE • NON-TOXIC & ODORLESS • LIGHT-WEIGHT & ECONOMICAL • DURABLE
• ATTRACTIVE DESIGN • EASY TO INSTALL • EASY TO CLEAN & MAINTAIN • LONG LASTING

ROUND TOP & BASE REG. PATENT NO. D-4995 UM-7181
ROUND TOP & FLAT BASE REG. PATENT NO. D-4996
VOLUMES AVAILABLE 200 lts. (50 gals.) up to 15,000 lts. (4,000 gals.)
NOT RECOMMENDED for Salty Water or for Water with High Calcium and Corrosive Mineral Contents
WE ACCEPT Special Made-to Orders
ROUND TOP & BASE
HORIZONTAL TANK
STR STF STH UTR

Manufactured by: INTERNATIONAL STAINLESS PRODUCTS MFG., CORP.
TELS. 9374361 • 9374364 • 9386722 • 9386756 FAX 9374623
Cebu Sales Office: ALUMCOR LUMBER CORP.
TELS. (032) 2612371 to 76 FAX (032) 2612360

The University of Newcastle Australia

FREE SEMINAR on Postgraduate/ Undergraduate Environmental Studies and Management

Date : Thursday 30 May 2002
Time : 10:00a.m. to 12:00 noon
Venue : Tanguile Room
Dusit Hotel Nikko
Ayala Center 1223 Makati City

Interested students are asked to bring resumé and certified transcript of records.

To register, please contact:
IDP EDUCATION AUSTRALIA
G/F Salustiana Dee Ty Tower, 104 Paseo de Roxas, Legaspi Village, Makati City
Tel. No.: 816-0755 / 754-6281/277/230/229 • Fax: 815-9875
Email: info@manila.idp.edu.au
Applicants to AusAID Scholarship are welcome to attend

Cricos Provider Code No. 00109J www.newcastle.edu.au

Back to Basics
gibi
www.gibi.com.ph
SM DEPARTMENT STORE
Rustan's
THE LANDMARK
RDS
isetann
GIBIHOUSE
IMMAGINNI
GAISANO GROUP OF MALLS
AND SELECTED SHOE STORES NATIONWIDE

Rizal Ballroom Shangri-la Hotel, Makati
May 28, 2002
6:00 o'clock in the evening.

Manila Jockey Club, Inc.

135th Founding Anniversary

Messages

Warmest felicitations to the Board of Directors and the President of the Manila Jockey Club on the occasion of the 135th Founding Anniversary and the formal presentation of the San Lazaro Leisure Park.

I commend the Club headed by its president Atty. Alfonso R. Reyno, Jr. for spearheading such an event. These two celebrations manifest the deep commitment of the Club in developing horse racing in the country at par with the best in the world.

The Manila Jockey Club has continuously contributed to the goals, aspirations and hopes of local horsemen. It has developed the sport not only as an exciting industry but has provided an economic activity which has enormously helped the country.

May this occasion be an avenue for your dedication and commitment in continuously looking for ways to improve the industry and the Club as well. I am fully convinced that you would carry on your tradition of excellence which you have done through the years.

Mabuhay Kayong Lahat! Congratulations!

(SGD) Franklin M. Drilon
Senate President

MABUHAY!

My warmest greetings to the officers and members of the Manila Jockey Club, the first horse racing club in Southeast Asia, on their 135th year as the leading proponent of horse racing in the Philippines.

In its 135 years of existence the Manila Jockey Club has done much to promote what is popularly known as the "Sport of Kings," and at the same time raise much needed funds for various charities that are supported by the proceeds of horse racing.

We also find it fitting that it is celebrating its 135th Anniversary with the launching of the San Lazaro Leisure Park, as the establishment of this world class racing complex would also strengthen the preeminent position of Manila as one of the major venue of horse racing not only in the Philippines but in the whole Asia Pacific region.

Congratulations and more power!

(SGD) Jose L. Atienza, Jr.
Mayor - City of Manila

On the celebration of the 135th Founding Anniversary of the Manila Jockey Club, I wish to pay tribute to the founders for their foresight in establishing a racing club that would set the pace in promoting the horse racing industry in the country and in the whole of Southeast Asia. It is a vision that has brought us to where we now stand - at the threshold of new challenges.

Indeed, having accomplished so much during the past thirteen and a half decades, MJC now focuses its sight on the development of a new racetrack outside Metro Manila, complete with world class facilities. It is a daunting challenge that will require steadfast commitment, creativity and perseverance on all of us in the policy-making and management staff of the club. And more importantly, the support and encouragement of other sectors in the country.

MJCI is totally committed to its modernization program. The policies being pursued by the Board of Directors are designed to successfully hurdle the problems that may arise in the course of our program implementation.

We are confident that all those who believe in promoting the horse racing industry in the country shall rally behind us and lend us their support, if not their active participation, in attaining our common goals.

(SGD) Pedro O. Tan
Chairman

The 135th Founding Anniversary Celebration of the Manila Jockey Club, Inc. highlights the historic beginning of this pioneer racing club in Southeast Asia.

Organized in 1867, antedating even Churchill Downs in the West, MJCI can be proud of its innumerable accomplishments through all these years in promoting the horse racing industry in the country.

Indeed, it has continually introduced and implemented measures to protect the integrity and credibility of the sport as well as advance the interests of all those involved in the industry.

And as it pauses to commemorate its historic founding, MJCI takes another historic step as it formally launches the San Lazaro Leisure Park, a world class racing complex now under construction on a 77-hectare site in nearby Carmona, Cavite. As designed by its builders, the San Lazaro Leisure Park shall integrate the new racetrack with world class sports, entertainment and residential facilities.

On behalf of the MJCI management, I wish to convey our sincerest appreciation to all sectors involved in the industry - horse owners, breeders, trainers, jockeys, the government officials concerned, and most especially the racing aficionados - for your continued support and encouragement.

Maraming salamat po.

(SGD) Alfonso R. Reyno, Jr.
President

The 1st racing club in Southeast Asia

IN THE summer of 1867 a group of sportsmen led by Jose de la Gandara y Navarro, then Spanish General of the Philippines, formed the first racing club in Southeast Asia, the MANILA JOCKEY CLUB.

Founders of the Club were predominantly descendants of affluent Filipino, Spanish and English families in Manila in the 19th century.

Club membership was highly exclusive. Applicants were strictly screened by the Board of Directors. One dissenting vote is sufficient to keep anyone out. There were two kinds of membership, both requiring fees, then considered steep. The *"socio fondador"*, the equivalent of a charter member and the *"socio transuente"*, or associate member. The former paid the Club an entrance fee of P50 and monthly dues of P5 while the later paid a monthly fee of P2.

The Club was organized purely for recreation. There was no betting. On a straight-away course, from San Sebastian Church to Quiapo Church, about quarter of a mile, members raced their frail but spunky mounts what would now be called "fun runs". Racing once a year, participants vied for tokens--gold and silver medals, watches and other ornaments.

When the Spanish-American war broke out, the Club was closed temporarily and was opened during the American occupation and was moved to its present site at San Lazaro in Sta. Cruz from Sta. Mesa.

Racing during this period, once exclusive for the rich, was opened to the public and betting was introduced.

The Club has undergone many improvements. When Atty. Alfonso R. Reyno, Jr. took the helm as president in 1997, the Club made a great turn around in terms of technology, facilities, services, OTB expansion and income generation.

His vision is to lift the company to greater heights and place the Club among the world's best.

The Board of Directors

From top left-right:

Pedro O. Tan - *Chairman*
Alfonso R. Reyno, Jr. - *President*
Alfonso Victorio G. Reyno III-*Vice Chairman*
Mariza Santos-Tan - Director & *Treasurer*
Henry Cualoping - Director & *Asst. Treasurer*
Martin R. Cepeda - *Director*
Patrick G. Reyno - *Director*
Christopher G. Reyno - *Director*
Juanita Uy Tan - *Director*
Ferdinand A. Domingo - *Corporate Secretary*

The Executive Officers

From top left-right:

Alfonso R. Reyno, Jr. - *President & Chief Exec. Officer*
Roberto R. Reverente - *Exec. Vice President & C.O.O.*
Juan A. De Leon -*Deputy C.O.O. & VP Operation*
Juan S. Baun, Jr. - *VP - Administration & Legal Affairs*
Celso A. Modina - *VP - Finance*
Manuel Antonio S. Arevalo - *VP - Marketing*
Patrick G. Reyno - *VP - Strategic Planning & Business Dev.*
Henri S. Kahn - *VP - Corporate Affairs*
Rodolfo H. Prado - *Consultant for Racing*

2000 Felix Huertas St., Sta. Cruz, Manila, Philippines
Tel: (632) 7111251 to 60 Fax: (632) 7121599
E-mail: mjci@mindgate.net
www.manilajockeyclubinc.com

Congratulations

Manila Jockey Club, Inc.

CICI GENERAL INSURANCE CORP.

Complete Insurance Coverage.

FIRE ☐ MOTOR VEHICLE ☐ PERSONAL ACCIDENT ☐ MARINE & AVIATION
LIVESTOCK ☐ ENGINEERING LIABILITY ☐ SURETYSHIP

Makati Head Office:
Ground Floor Le Triomphe Condominium, 375 H.V. Dela Costa St. Salcedo Village,
Makati City 1227 Philippines
Tel Nos 817-6176, 817-8179, 817-8216, 817-8513, 817-8516, 894-0292
Fax Nos: (632) 810-8730 (632) 892-8854
E-mail cicigi-manila.com.ph

Cebu Branch Office:
2nd Flr., Martinez Bldg., Osmeña Blvd., Cebu City
Tel Nos.: (032) 255-7916 Telefax No.: (032) 255-7014

Pampanga Service Office:
Rm. D, 3rd Flr. Kehyeng Bldg. Dolores Junction, San Fernando, Pampanga
Tel No. (045) 961-6420 Telefax No. (045) 963-5311

Best wishes to

Manila Jockey Club, Inc.
for its
135th Founding Anniversary
and grand launching of the
San Lazaro Leisure Park
Carmona, Cavite

BANCO DE ORO
UNIBANK

DURABILITY
has a...
SOFTER, GENTLER SIDE
NO RIVAL
NO EQUAL
Burlington

Greetings to

Manila Jockey Club, Inc.

Congratulations to

Manila Jockey Club, Inc.
135th Founding Anniversary
and the formal presentation of
"The San Lazaro Leisure Park"

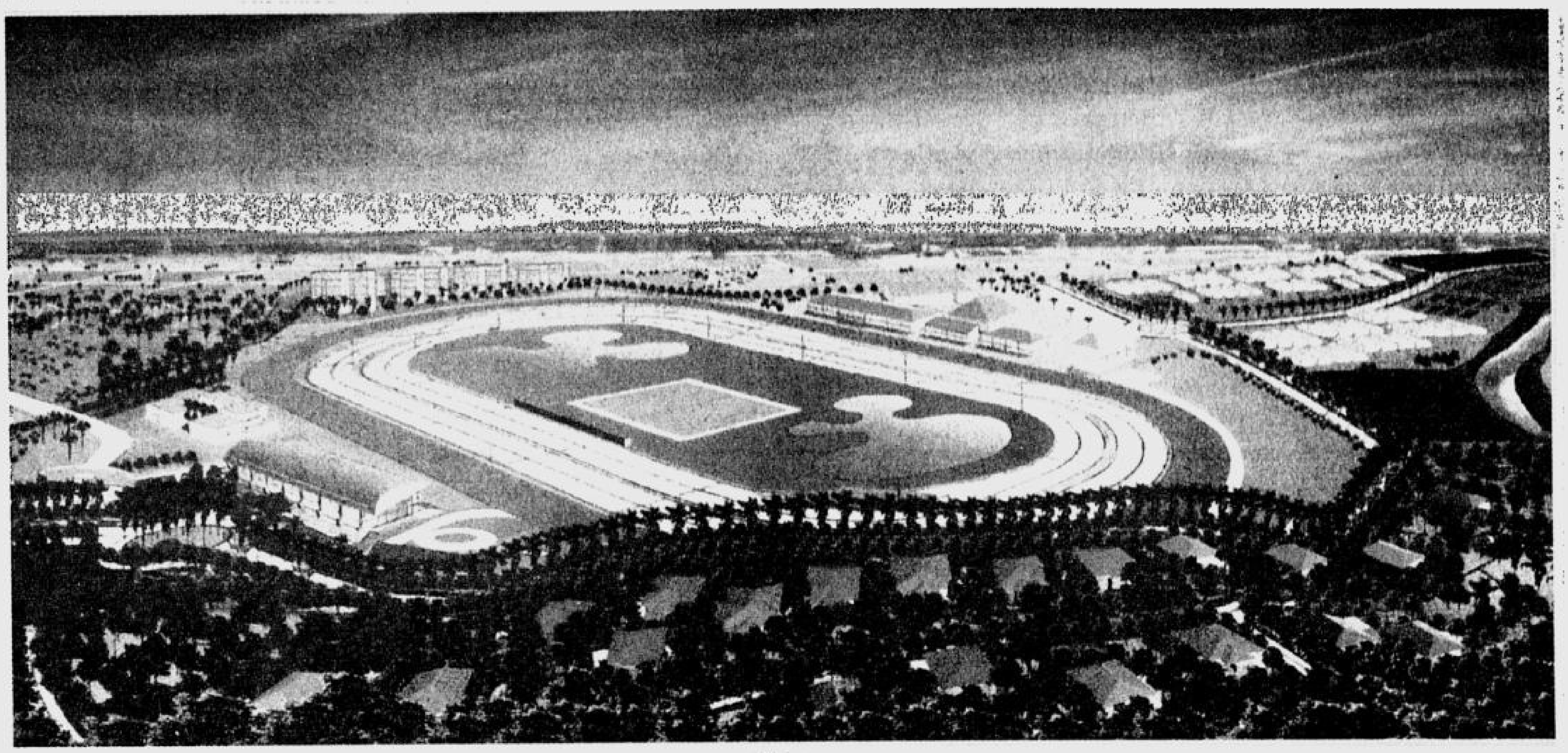
Philippine Bank of Communications
HEAD OFFICE
PBCOM Tower
6795 Ayala Avenue corner V. A. Rufino Street
1226 Makati City, Philippines
Tel. No. 830-7000
Website Address: www.pbcom.com.ph

MJCI-Advertising

San Lazaro Leisure Park

Carmona, Cavite

A world-class racing complex



Out of 77 hectares of understated beauty the Club carved out its new racetrack, auspiciously shaped like the head of its noble animal. The San Lazaro Leisure Park is an integrated horse racing complex that blends world class sports and entertainment facilities with residential development. The Park will have a commanding view of Laguna de Bay. The facilities include the racetrack, turf club, equestrian riding school, hotel, stabling paddock and an upscale residential subdivision. The race track is scheduled to be completed by the first quarter of 2003.

Cheers to

Manila Jockey Club, Inc.
135th Founding Anniversary
and grand launching of the
The San Lazaro Leisure Park

from

Jose Aliling
& Associates

Congratulations

Manila
Jockey
Club, Inc.

ASIATRUST Bank

Corporate Headquarters: 1424 Quezon Ave., Quezon City
Trunklines: 373-4101 to 373-4120 Fax: 373-3431 and 373-2429
Home Page: http://www.asiatrustbank.com
E-mail: marketing@asiatrustbank.com

PNCDC

PIEDRAS NEGRAS CONSTRUCTION & DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

GENERAL CONTRACTOR & EQUIPMENT RENTALS

Congratulations

Manila
Jockey
Club, Inc.

55 Malumanay Street, Teachers Village West, Quezon City, Philippines
Tels. (632) 9214315 / (632) 4348567 / (632) 4361782
Tel/Fax. (632) 4348588 E-mail: pncdc@bdnet.com

**MARCBILT
CONSTRUCTION
INCORPORATED**

New Office Address & Telephone Nos
Suite 805 Richville Corporate Tower, Madrigal Business Park, Alabang
Tel.Nos. 807-0747, 807-2229 & Telefax No. 807-0586, 807-9367

PLANT SITE: Aguinaldo Highway, Anabu I, Imus, Cavite

Best wishes to

Manila
Jockey
Club, Inc.

MJCI-Advertising

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Northwestern Luzon will experience monsoon rains while the rest of Luzon will have cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms in the afternoon or evening. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to cloudy. source: **pagasa**

Metro Manila	Cloudy with Rains	HI33° Lo 24°
Baguio	Monsoon Rains	Hi 21° Lo 15°
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 33° Lo 24°
Laoag	Monsoon Rains	Hi 29° Lo 22°
Clark Zone	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 31° Lo 22°
Tagaytay	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 30° Lo 22°
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 32° Lo 26°
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Iloilo/Bacolod	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 25°
Roxas	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 25°
Cebu	Partly Cloudy	Hi 34° Lo 26°
Tacloban	Partly Cloudy	Hi 33° Lo 25°
Gen. Santos	Partly Cloudy	Hi 33° Lo 24°
Zamboanga	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Cagayan de Oro	Partly Cloudy	Hi 33° Lo 24°
Davao	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 25°

Compiled by: Ray Leyesa, PDI Research/05/28/02

ROUNDUP

Fire hits mayor's office

BUTUAN CITY—A fire caused by electrical short circuit burned the office of Mayor Daisy Plaza here on Thursday night. Ricardo Racaza, city fire marshal, said the "minor fire" damaged office furniture, fixtures and documents. Fire officials estimated the damage at P500,000.

Franklin Caliguid, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Skeletons identified

COTABATO CITY—The eight skeletal remains exhumed in a mass grave in Matalam, Cotabato were members of the New People's Army killed in a firefight with the defunct Civilian Home Defense Force and policemen. Senior Insp. Eldie Magbanua, Matalam police chief, said his office was still digging deeper into the encounter that took place on July 14, 1984 in the hinterlands of Barangay Latagan. The Family of Victims of Involuntary Disappearances, a non-government group looking for their missing relatives, earlier discovered the mass grave in Sitio Natipakan. FIND identified the victims as Cristituto Tanian, Jimmy Lovito, Normal Villavito, Jeriuco Cabanas, Mitchie Ellejo, Diosdado Sarse, Domingo Gratus and 17-year-old Esperidion Pableo, all of Matalam.

Edwin Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau

2 NPA rebels slain

BOSTON, Davao Oriental—At least two members of the New People's Army were killed in a clash with Army troopers in Barangay Sibujay on Thursday morning. Maj. Alexis Gopico, chief of the Army's 8th Special Forces Battalion, said two unidentified bodies of the NPA rebels were recovered in Sitio Karabtuan after the encounter. Gopico said a number of the communist rebels were also wounded.

Ferdinand Zuasola, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Mayoral elections

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY—The Commission on Elections here held special elections on Saturday to fill the mayoral slot in Nunungan, Lanao del Norte. Lawyer Abdul Manamparan, former mayor of Nunungan, earlier filed an election protest against incumbent Mayor Jun Cawasa after the election proceedings in Barangays Liangan and Kabasaran were brought to the town of Sultan Naga Dimaporo.

Grace Cantal-Albasin, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Women in arts fest

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY—At least 400 women in Northern Mindanao participated in the Community Women's Arts Festival at the Cagayan Capitol College gym yesterday. The women showed their talent in acting, dancing, singing and poetry-reading during the theater presentations. There were also exhibits, forums and workshops during the three-day festival. Mildred Cielo, Women's Health Safe Motherhood Project co-manager, said the festival is a venue for the women to enhance their self-confidence and capacity to express their concerns as members of society. The women came from 27 barangays in Misamis Occidental, Misamis Oriental and Bukidnon.

Grace Cantal-Albasin, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Bomb to embarrass

CEBU CITY—Mactan-Benito Ebuen Air Base authorities said the planting of a molotov in front of the base's gate last Feb. 10 was not aimed at American forces participating in Balikatan and at cause-oriented groups holding rallies near the base's gate. The MBEAB said they have in their custody Arvin Bongcawil, son of a retiree residing at the Airmen's Village, who admitted that he made and planted the explosives to retaliate at and embarrass the base security policemen after he and his friends were arrested several times for curfew violations.

PDI Visayas Bureau

Anti-porn campaign

BATANGAS CITY—The city's anti-pornography drive that started last year has resulted in the confiscation of over a thousand pirated video compact discs at the old and new markets here, city police chief Supt. Restito Hernandez said. The pirated pornographic CDs, according to Hernandez, cost P60-P100 each as sold by Muslim sidewalk vendors. The owners of the stores that the police raided, however, were always able to flee before the police raid. The Muslim sidewalk vendors, who used to display the pirated CDs, have stopped the sale of the fake merchandise. But some big-time vendors still sell the pirated CDs hidden in the cabinets of their stores to buyers referred to them by fellow Muslim vendors.

Mel Magsino, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Anti-drug campaign

LEGAZPI CITY—The Bicol police's Operation Banat (Barangay Against Narcotics Abuse and Trafficking) seized 115.13 grams of shabu and 3.3 grams of marijuana in April through raids and buy-bust operations region-wide. Chief Supt. Enrique Galang Jr., Bicol police chief, said the Bicol police launched 17 separate Banat operations in April, which resulted in the arrest of 24 persons and the confiscation of 115.39 grams of shabu worth P207,702 and 3.3 grams of marijuana worth P4,682.50. Of the 24 persons arrested, 11 have been charged in court. Of the 24, 12 were pushers, 11 were users and one was a cultivator of marijuana.

Tony Macasinag, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

BENEFICIARIES' WOES

NGOs blamed for Negros CARP mess

By Alex V. Pal
PDI Visayas Bureau

DUMAGUETE CITY—A cooperative of farm beneficiaries has scored the involvement of non-government organizations in the implementation of the government's Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP) in Negros Oriental.

Moises Sycip, manager of the Sycip Farm Workers Multipurpose Cooperative, and consultant Edward Du told the INQUIRER on Saturday that many NGOs only caused confusion and created problems among CARP beneficiaries in the province.

They appealed to landowners to exercise care in dealing with NGOs and to check the background of each organization.

"If the mandate of the NGOs is to unite the farmers and ensure the success of the CARP, how come there is a lot of trouble (among) the beneficiaries?" Sycip asked.

Sycip and Du said that while the CARP is a laudable program, some personnel of the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) had "a hidden agenda" and connived with the NGOs in an effort to destroy the cooperatives and put them under their umbrella.

"The bottom line here could be funding, because foreign funding agencies will not release money to these NGOs if they don't have people with them," Du said.

The co-op officials said their cooperative became a target of destabilization attempts by three DAR personnel in connivance with some NGOs last year.

The DAR personnel tried to convince the co-op members, who were recipients of the Certificate of Land Ownership Award (Cloa), to petition for a change in the management of the cooperative.

Of the 339 co-op members, Du said 50 had been convinced to sign the petition through deception.

These 50 workers initially opted to be bought out of the cooperative. But they later decided to come back after realizing that they were only being used by the unscrupulous DAR personnel and the NGOs, said Du.

Du said while the "attempted coup" by the DAR personnel and the NGOs did not materialize, they succeeded in destabilizing the cooperative, which resulted in huge financial losses because they were denied access to funds.

The Sycip Farm Workers Multipurpose Cooperative is the only CARP-diversified farm in the province and possibly in the country that is fully developed.

When the Sycip Farm owners sold their shares to the cooperative composed of all their workers, they included not only the sugarland, but also their fishponds, mango plantations, poultry and salt-beds covering an area of 500 hectares.

The Sycip Farm owners also parted with their farm equipment in favor of the cooperative.

"I used to get questions from my fellow planters about why we had to give our implements to the cooperative. My response was—if we don't support these beneficiaries, the program would be useless. What will they do with the land if they don't have the equipment?" Sycip said.

Sycip, however, remains optimistic that agrarian reform would succeed, if left in the hands of sincere and honest people.

Cops offer ₱1M reward for kidnap gang head

GENERAL SANTOS CITY—Police authorities are dangling a P1-million bounty for the capture, dead or alive, of notorious kidnap-for-ransom gang leader Tahir Alonto.

The Philippine National Police came up with the reward offer after confirming intelligence reports that Alonto is the leader of the Pentagon kidnap-for-ransom gang, which has been tagged as responsible for a series of kidnappings in South-Central Mindanao.

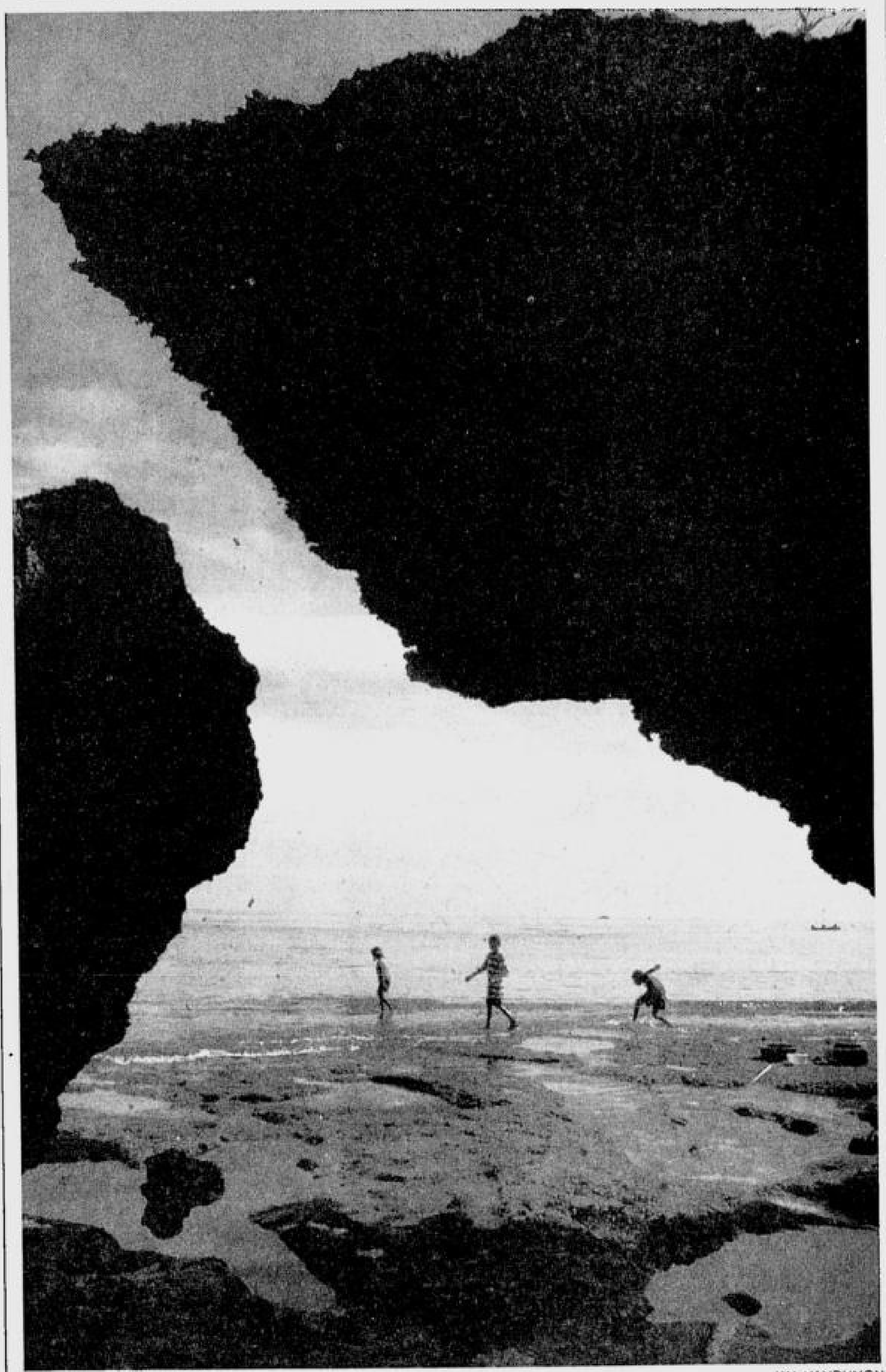
Police have already distributed pictures of Alonto to several police stations in Central Mindanao to aid in his capture.

Alonto was allegedly the mastermind of the 1999 kidnapping of the Cavalida brothers of Digos City. The victims were snatched while on their way to visit a mango plantation in Malungon, Sarangani.

He was also implicated in the kidnapping of Italian missionary Fr. Giuseppe Pierantoni and the Chinese project engineers in Cotabato.

Two years ago, Alonto was captured by operatives of the 601st Army Brigade along the national highway in Barangay Apopong while trying to carry out another kidnapping in the city.

Aquiles Zonio, PDI Mindanao Bureau



VAL HANDUMON

NATURE'S BEST
Nature sculpts its best on the remote island of San Juan in Siquijor.

Napocor gives co-op breather

BACOLOD CITY—The National Power Corp. (Napocor) has agreed not to push through with cutting off power supply to the Central Negros Electric Corp. (Ceneco) on Monday pending negotiations over a payment scheme for the co-op's April bill amounting to P139.7 million.

Rolando Quilala, acting Napocor chief, said he agreed to postpone the scheduled disconnection on the request of Bacolod Rep. Monico Puentevella.

But, he added, Ceneco officials must discuss a schedule of payment with the Napocor immediately or face disconnection in a week.

Puentevella said he asked Quilala to allow the co-op to enter into another special payment agreement to pay off its debt.

The congressman also urged the Bacolod City government to come up with a plan of payment for its P36-million debt to the cooperative.

"This will help ease the burden of (the) Ceneco," he said.

The Napocor had warned the Ceneco that it would disconnect power supply to the co-op by Monday if the co-op failed to pay P139.7 million representing its April power bill.

If it pushed through, a disconnection would plunge major cities of Negros Occidental into darkness.

The Ceneco serves the cities of Bacolod, Silay, Bago and Talisay cities and the towns of Murcia and Don Salvador Benedicto towns, with 104,848 consumers.

Benedicto Peralta, acting general manager of the power cooperative, had said the Ceneco needed to immediately negotiate a payment scheme.

The Napocor had granted Ceneco a special payment arrangement (SPA) that extended the co-op's deadline to pay from May 6 to May 24 of the co-op's March bill. ***Carla Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau***

Obstacles removed for ₱2.1-B power interconnection project

By Vicente S. Labro
PDI Visayas Bureau

TACLOBAN CITY—The implementation of the P2.1 billion Leyte-Bohol power interconnection project will now go full blast after the problems that caused its delay were threshed out in a meeting here that was presided over by President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Leyte Gov. Remedios Petilla, chair of the Regional Development Council for Eastern Visayas, said the Leyte-Bohol interconnection project was among the major issues addressed during the joint Regional Peace and Order Council (RPOC)-RDC meeting held to coincide with the President's visit here on May 10.

The project, now on its second phase, is expected to be completed by April 2003.

Petilla said the allegation that the project has yet to acquire an environmental clearance certificate (ECC) was resolved after it was found that an ECC had been issued for the project but the documents were inadvertently sent to a different government agency.

The implementation of Phase II of the Leyte-Bohol interconnection project would involve the installation of steel towers for 138-kV transmission lines from Ormoc City in Leyte to Maasin City in Southern Leyte, covering a distance of some 130 kilometers.

The transmission lines will run from Ormoc, where the source of geothermal power is located, to a sub-station in Maasin where submarine cables had earlier been installed across the sea that separates Leyte and Bohol islands under the first phase of the project. The laying out of four submarine cables from Leyte to Bohol cost P2.3 billion.

The interconnection project allowed the delivery of 17 megawatts of geothermal power from Leyte to Bohol at a 69-kilovolt (kV) transmission level. But once the second stage is completed, the interconnection facilities will be able to accommodate 86 megawatts at the 138-kV transmission level.

The Japan Bank for International Cooperation is financing the project.

The project had been delayed because of environmental concerns. Officials from the Leyte State University (formerly the Visayas State University of Agriculture) earlier hesitated granting the right-of-way for the transmission line to pass through the school's property in Baybay, Leyte because of fears that the project would result in environmental degradation.

It was learned that among the conditions set by the university's board of regents in approving the project's right-of-way was for it to follow an identified route so as not to destroy the habitat of the Philippine tarsier and the school's experimental stations at the mountain ridge of the campus.

Farmers say quarrying threatening their lands

By Jun Malig
PDI Central Luzon Desk

PORAC, Pampanga—Despite farmers' massive opposition and repeated appeals to local and environmental officials, illegal quarrying threatens to erode and dry up the natural irrigation system of some 60 hectares of farmland along the Malele River in Barangay Pio here.

Alejandro Alvaro, 54, president of the Nagkakaisang Magsasaka ng Pio (United Farmers of Pio), said farmers and their families have been struggling to prevent the PLY Construction Co. from quarrying boulders and stones along the river.

"We have repeatedly appealed to our Mayor (Exequiel Gamboa), the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and to Gov. (Manuel) Lapid to prohibit the quarrying at Malele River because it will damage our ricelands. But until now the PLY Construction continues to quarry along the river," he lamented.

A certification obtained by the 55-member farmers' group from the Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (Penro) shows that the agency has not issued any new quarrying permit to the PLY Construction Co. owned by Horacio Yalung.

The certification, which was issued on May 23, states that Yalung's old permit had expired on April 11, 1999.

Regina Vitug, Penro officer-in-charge, confirmed to the INQUIRER that the PLY Construction Co. has no permit to quarry along the Malele River. She said the firm is still applying for a permit.

Rafaelito Pineda, the farmers' spokesperson, said Lapid personally assured them that he would take care of their problem.

"But workers of PLY Construction are still quarrying in the area while being guarded by armed policemen. Farmers, women and children have been barricading the quarry site, which is located only about 200 meters from their homes and right beside their farms," he said.

Last Thursday, farmer Modesto Manauli, 40, was hurt when a Porac policeman allegedly grabbed and damaged his camera while he was taking pictures of the quarrying activities along the river.

Vitug said an employee of Yalung who introduced himself as Mr. Manipon went to the Penro on Friday to explain that the firm "was just testing its equipment" in the river and not actually quarrying.

The farmers, however, insisted that PLY Construction has been extracting boulders and stones that it transforms into gravel in its nearby crushing facilities since last month.

₱21B of budget lost to graft, says solon

From page A 25

health (P11.8 billion), of justice (P7.6 billion) and of environment (P6.9 billion).

Andaya revealed the money lost to corruption in connection with the Procurement Reform Bill recently approved by his committee.

House Bill No. 4809, or "An act providing for the modernization, standardization and regulation of the procurement activities of the government," is principally authored by Andaya, Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr., Majority Leader Neptali Gonzales II and Negros Occidental Rep. Charlie Cojuangco.

HB 4809 seeks to reduce and stamp out corruption in the procurement of goods and services by the government, according to Andaya.

Andaya said collusion between government officials and contractors could be eliminated by doing away with the prequalification process in the bidding out of projects.

He said the present system of pre-qualification was the source of delays and corruption.

Instead of pre-qualification procedures, the bill would require an eligibility check on bidders. This is expected to shorten the process from the usual five to seven months to only one to two weeks.

The bill also seeks to reduce to "almost nil" the wide discretion of members of the bids and awards committees (BACs) in setting up the quality and price of goods or services.

Andaya said the bill would require the submission of two sets of envelopes by contractors or suppliers, one for the technical evaluation and another for the financial aspect.

The bill seeks to limit the discretion of the BACs by prescribing only two choices—pass or fail—on the technical aspect.

For the financial evaluation, the lowest bidder will be automatically declared the winner but subject to certain post-qualification requirements.

If the winner does not meet the post-qualification requirements, the second lowest bidder is deemed winner in the bidding.

Andaya said the measure was also meant to address the lack of transparency in procurement by doing away with the old practice of bracketing and the setting of a floor price in the bidding.

The setting of a floor price brings about price diving and subsequent price escalation, according to Andaya.

To ensure transparency, all procurement requirements of the government shall be posted on the Internet.

One controversial provision allows a contractor from the province where the project is located to win the bidding.

Within five years of the effectivity of the law, contractors would be allowed to match the bid of a contractor not from the province.

Heavy metal is out.

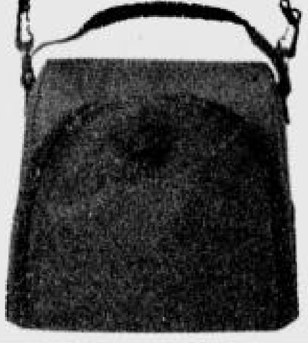
Let your kids be "in" with the Coleman Pack-away 6 Collapsible Lunch Cooler. Made with fabric so it won't corrode, and your kids won't get bruised by any sharp corners.

Coleman

The most interesting subject in school.

Lunch can be the most interesting subject in school with the Coleman Table Top Lunch! The sidepanel zips down and turns into a cool placemat to enjoy yummy meals on!

Coleman



Spoil your kid with a belt.

The Coleman 6-can Lunch Cooler. Designed with thick insulation to spoil your kids with warm lunches and cold drinks. With an adjustable shoulder strap for added comfort.

Coleman

To make your kid eat his lunch, strap him.

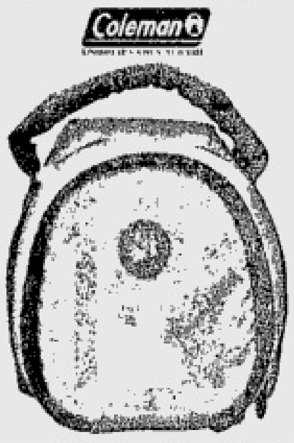
The Coleman Camper Lunch makes bringing packed lunches a breeze with its adjustable, removable shoulder strap. It's thickly insulated too so the food stays warm and fresh and the drinks cold.

Coleman

We've taken lunch out of the box.

Coleman Kids' Lunch Plus Cooler -- made soft and round with a squeezy handle to make it easy for little hands to grip.

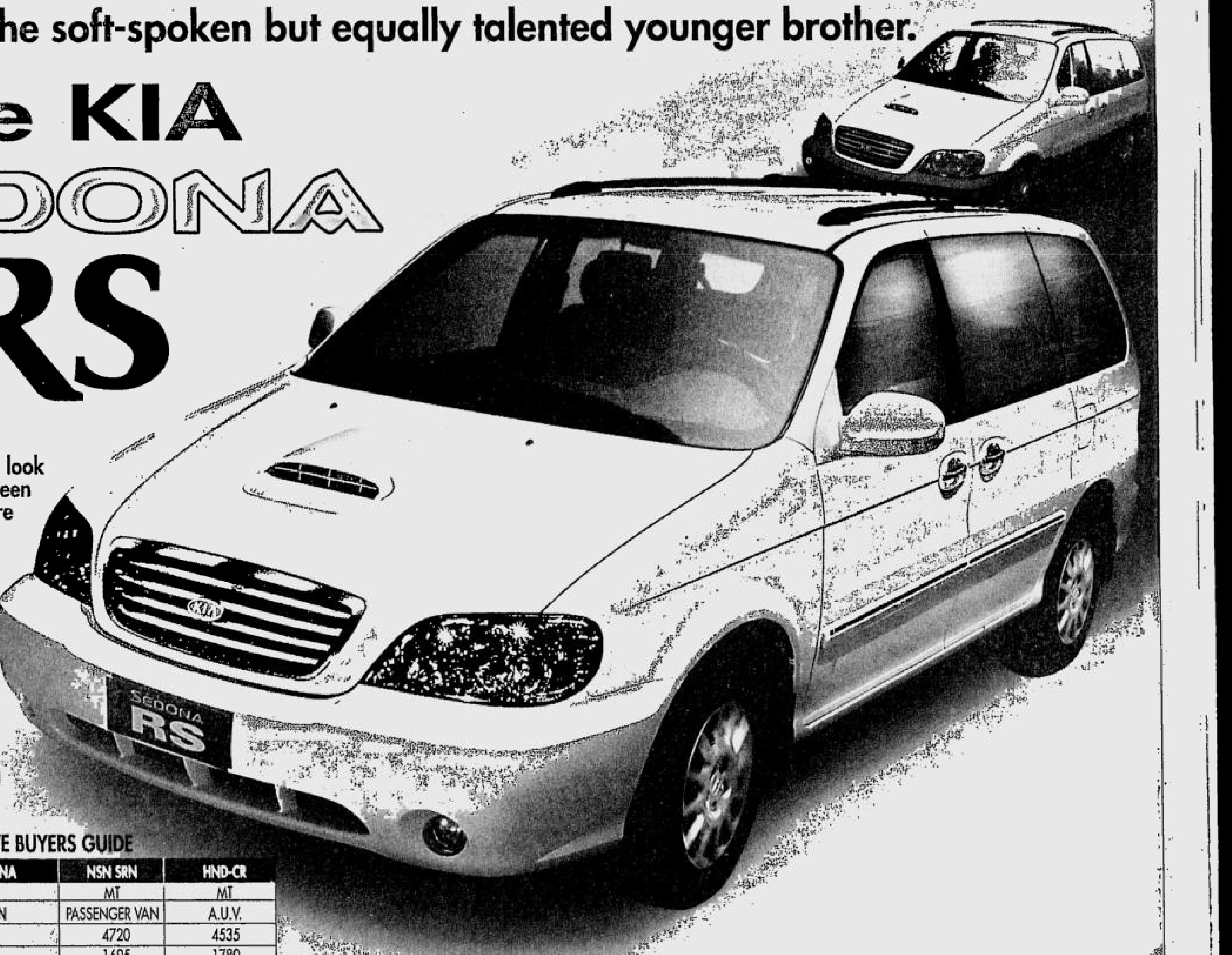
Coleman



Coleman is distributed by Focus Global Inc., Pioneer corner Reliance St., Mandaluyong City. For dealership and corporate inquiries, please call 634-8587 and look for Joni. Coleman Store and Service Centers: 2F Expansion Mall, Robinson's Galleria, tel. no. 632-9145 • 5th Level Bldg. B, SM Megamall, tel. no. 634-2648 • GF, Park Square 1, Ayala Center, Makati City, tel. no. 892-9219 • 2nd Level, Expansion Mall, Alabang Town Center, tel. no. 850-7854. METRO MANILA: ACE Hardware • Anson's Emporium • Armen's Merchandise • AST Commercial • Beemont • Best Price • Big R • Cash N Carry • Chuan Hong • Crossings Department Store • Daelyn • Duralex • Easy-Job Metro Mall • Ever Department Store & Supermarket • Everchine Appliance Traders • Fairmart • Friend Acne Merchandising • Han's Infinite Tools • Handyman • Hardware Depot • Home Quest • The Landmark • Libbey's • Lin Say Emporium • Makati Supermart Alabang • Makro • Montmark Houseware • Mart One • Nazarene General Merchandise • Plaza Fair • Price Smart • Robinson's Department Store • RTC • Rustan's Department Store • Rustan's Supermarket • Shoppersville Supermarket • SM Homeworld • SM Hypermart • SM Supermarket • SM Workshop • Sta. Lucia East Department Store • Stan Marketing • Shopwise Department Store • Sin Kian Heng Emporium • South Supermarket • Store Shop • Sunshine Hardware • Tip Top Glassware • Unimart • ANGELES: Saver's Mall • Saver's Mart • BACOLOD: Gaisano South • Lopue's • Season Trading • BAGUIO: Golden Crest Marketing • BATAAN: Santol Marketing • BATANGAS: Citimart Shop On • Genesco • Todos Amigos • BICOL: LCC • CABANATUAN: Hardware Depot • Melanie's • CAGAYAN DE ORO: Gaisano CDO • Orosama • CEBU: Gaisano, Inc. • Gaisano Metro • Gaisano South • DAGUPAN: City Central Department Store • CSI Department Store • Magic Warehouse Club • On Steng Glassware • DAVAO: Davao Central Warehouse • Gaisano Center • Golden Bell • JS Gaisano • Lucky Marketing • Metro Plaza Davao • NCCC • Park N Shop • Victoria Plaza • DUMAGUETE: Cang's Inc. • ILOILO: Gaisano South • Homestore • Iloilo Supermart • SUBIC: Royal Duty Free • TAGBILARAN: Alturs's Department Store • Bohol Quality • TARLAC: Big A Department Store • Saver's Mart • ZAMBOANGA: Golden Bell Commercial • Metro Plaza Zamboanga • Shoppers Central • Check out our website at www.focusglobalinc.com

Think of it as the soft-spoken but equally talented younger brother.

The KIA SEDONA RS



It takes more than a second look to spot the differences between the SEDONA RS and its more fully-equipped sibling LS.

The RS has less frills, limited body colors, different wheels, but pretty much everything else intact.

And now, both SEDONAs also share a new, **3 years/110,000 km. warranty*** to affirm their desire to be a long-standing member of your family.

INFORMATIVE BUYERS GUIDE

Model	KIA SEDONA	NSN SRN	HND-CR
	MT	MT	MT
CLASSIFICATION	MINIVAN	PASSENGER VAN	A.U.V.
Overall length (mm)	4930	4720	4535
Overall width (mm)	1895	1695	1780
Engine type	DOHC Turbo diesel Intercooler	SR20DE gasoline	DOHC I.VTEC gas
Displacement (cc)	2902	1998	1998
Climate controls	8 individual ports	Dual	Single
Front w/shield defogger	standard	n.a.	n.a.
2nd row folding table	standard	n.a.	n.a.
Fog lamps	standard	n.a.	n.a.
Seating capacity	10	10	10
Warranty	3 yrs/110,000 kms.	2 yrs/50,000 kms.	2 yrs/50,000 kms.
Suggested Retail Price	**885,000**	P 960,000	P 899,000

* 20% dp financing available
** Subject to bank approval

* Subject to warranty guidelines compliance & strict adherence to regular preventive maintenance service schedule by KIA authorized dealer

SRP: P885,000.00 M/T P935,000.00 A/T

KIA SEDONA RS.
Slightly different. Just as capable.

KIA
The Car that Cares

SERVICE PRO
2002 KIA SERVICE CLINIC
Now ongoing at selected GMA & Luzon dealers!

Choosing your KIA SEDONA just got tougher. Let a KIA authorized dealer help you:

METRO MANILA

KIA PASAY (KIA MOTOR SALES CORP.)
2316 Aurora Blvd., Pasay City Tels. 891-6337 to 39•834-1271 to 77•891-6334

KIA COMMONWEALTH
(PRINCE MOTOR CORP.)
43 Commonwealth Avenue, Q. C.
Tels. 951-2201 to 16•453-9318 to 20

KIA BALINTAWAK (SIGNET BALINTAWAK)
1240 EDSA, Balintawak, Q. C
Tels. 362-5091/92•362-5095

KIA MANDALUYONG (SIGNET MANDALUYONG)
79 EDSA Mandaluyong M. M. Tels. 531-4631 to 33 •631-6424•531-1949 Almanza Branch: (In front of SM South) Tels. •801 7656•806 2230•806-2235• 801 7668•802-1024•806-2229•806-1390

KIA MARIKINA (DELTA MOTOR SALES CORP.)
332 Sumulong Highway Brgy. San Isidro, Cainta, Rizal Tel. 682-0580 - 81 Telefax 682 8539

KIA NEW MANILA (WHEELS, INC.)
222 E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave., Q. C. (near St. Luke's Hospital) Tels. 721 8456•721 8465 •721-8448•4113406, Quezon Ave. Branch: 602 Quezon Ave., Q. C. Tels. 712-2923•712 2926•743-6707

LUZON

KIA LA UNION (AMIANAN AUTOCENTER, INC.)
Main. National Highway, Sevilla, City of San Fernando, La Union 2500 Tels. (072) 700-8881/888-2607 KIA Baguio: 110 Magsaysay Ave., Baguio City 2600 Tels. (074) 300-8861/444-3547 KIA Laoag: Brgy. 16 National Highway, Payas San Nicolas, Ilocos Norte 2901 Tels. (077) 781 6881 to 82

KIA PAMPANGA (TRADERS AUTOCENTER, INC.)
Gapan-Olongapo Road, San Fernando, Pampanga Tels. (045) 961-1485•(045) 961-3926•961-1486 Cell No. (0912) 330-3231 KIA Tarlac: McArthur Highway, San Rafael Tarlac, Tarlac Tels. (045) 982 2423

KIA NAGA (WILLY'S MOTORS CORP.)
Zone 3, Del Rosario, Naga City Tels. (054) 476-8266 •(054)811-8641

KIA BATANGAS-LAGUNA
(BATANGAS-LAGUNA AUTOCENTER, INC.)
Main. Pres. Laurel Highway Crossing, Sto. Tomas Batangas Tels. (043) 778-4214 to 17

KIA CAVITE (KIA MOTORS CAVITE)
Aguinaldo Highway, Bacoor, Cavite Cel No. (046) 417-0795 KIA Biñan: Areza Bldg. 2 National Highway, Brgy. Canlalay, Biñan, Laguna (Beside Golden City Subd.) Tels. (02) 520-8241•(049) 411-0139

KIA DAGUPAN (METRO-DAGUPAN AUTOCENTER, INC.)
McArthur Highway, San Miguel, Calasiao, Pangasinan Tels. (075) 522-8805 to 06

VISAYAS & MINDANAO

KIA CEBU (CEBU AUTOCENTER, INC.)
417 A. Cortes Ave., Mandaue City Tels. (032) 344-3815•(032) 344-3816•(032) 344-3819•(032) 345-0065

KIA ORMOC (GGC ORMOC AUTOCENTER, INC.)
Lao Ave., Cogon, Ormoc City Tel./Fax # (053) 255-3466

KIA ILOILO (KIA MOTORS Metro Iloilo)
Brgy. Tagbac (beside Metropolis) Jaro, Iloilo City Tels. (033)329-2888•(033) 329-2222•(033) 329-4630 Fax (033)329-5257

KIA DAVAO (RS AUTOSPHERE CORP.)
Km. 7 J. P. Laurel Ave., Lanang, Davao City Tels. (082) 234-0057 to 58 Fax (082) 234-2434

KIA CAGAYAN DE ORO (STERLING MOTOR CORP.)
Cugman, Cagayan de Oro City
Tels. (088)855-5500, (088)855-6100, (0882)733207

KIA DIPOLOG (WESTERN MINDANAO AUTOMOTIVE CORP.)
(also known as CHEVY CENTER) National Highway, Sta. Isabel, Dipolog City Tels. (065)212-5897 Fax (065)212-2865

Power firms padding PPA, says Gloria

From page A1

dation. They should not include that in the PPA anymore. That's charity work. Thank God for charity work. But don't add it to the PPA," she went on.

In the Senate, finance committee chair John Osmeña won his battle to summon former President Fidel V. Ramos to a hearing to investigate charges that Ramos entered into "midnight deals" with independent power producers near the end of his term in 1998.

Senate energy committee chair Renato Cayetano, a presidential legal adviser during Ramos' term, offered no opposition after Osmeña's motion to refer Senate Resolution No. 310 to the Senate committee on government corporations and public enterprises with the energy committee as a secondary committee was approved.

"(Ramos) would be breaking no new ground if he testifies before the Senate," Osmeña said in a privileged speech.

Not angry?

Ms Macapagal admitted that she had heard comments that claimed she had ordered a review of the PPA several months ago because she was merely angry at media giant ABS-CBN, a sister company of Manila Electric Co. (Meralco).

She said she ignored such comments "because nobody can know anybody's motive except the person himself."

She said it was up to the Energy Regulatory Commission to review the PPA and decide on any petition for raising electricity bills.

"The ERC is independent because we don't want to politicize these issues," she said.

In the Senate, the investigation into the PPA had quickly turned into a political sideshow, with Osmeña accusing Cayetano of refusing to investigate Ramos, his former superior.

Osmeña had wanted Ramos to testify before Cayetano's committee on the stranded costs charged to the PPA and passed on to consumers because of allegedly onerous contracts entered into by the Ramos administration.

But Cayetano, as lead chair of the investigation, declined to invite Ramos just yet and explained that his priority was the immediate completion of a committee report that would deal directly with the possible reduction of electric rates.

An angry Osmeña then filed a separate resolution (SR 310) seeking a probe by the Senate committee on government corporations and public enterprises—which he also chairs. But Senate Majority Floor Leader Loren Legarda also referred SR 310 to the energy committee.

Last Friday, Osmeña threatened to put SR 310 to a vote should the energy committee be allowed to participate in the hearing. But the vote did not take place yesterday after Cayetano said he would no longer oppose any move to invite Ramos to the hearing.

"I had stressed before that I was not against summoning Mr. Ramos to the Senate. What I said was in due time; we will call him," Cayetano said

Sen. Edgardo Angara told Cayetano on interpellation that it was better that "the central figure (in the power crisis) come forward and explain to the people."

Angara noted that while Ramos had overseen the signing of 28 power contracts that would have been enough to address the power supply problem at that time, "he continued to sign five more."

"In fairness to himself and history, I think Mr. Ramos should appear," Angara said.

Oversight function

In a statement sent from Ottawa, Canada, Senate Minority Floor Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. said the expansion of the oversight functions of Congress had been a "healthy development."

Oversight was necessary, he said, because Congress churns out laws by the thousands and the President cannot be expected to implement those laws all by herself.

"The prevailing view in our legislative circle is that the bureaucrats tend to take liberties with the spirit and the letter of congressional enactment and sometimes supersede the legislative intent," Pimentel said.

The senator is attending a conference at the House of Commons Parliamentary Center in Ottawa.

Pimentel said oversight committees approved the rules formulated by the bureaucrats tasked with implementing the will of Congress. He said this serves as a restraining influence on the performance of government officials.

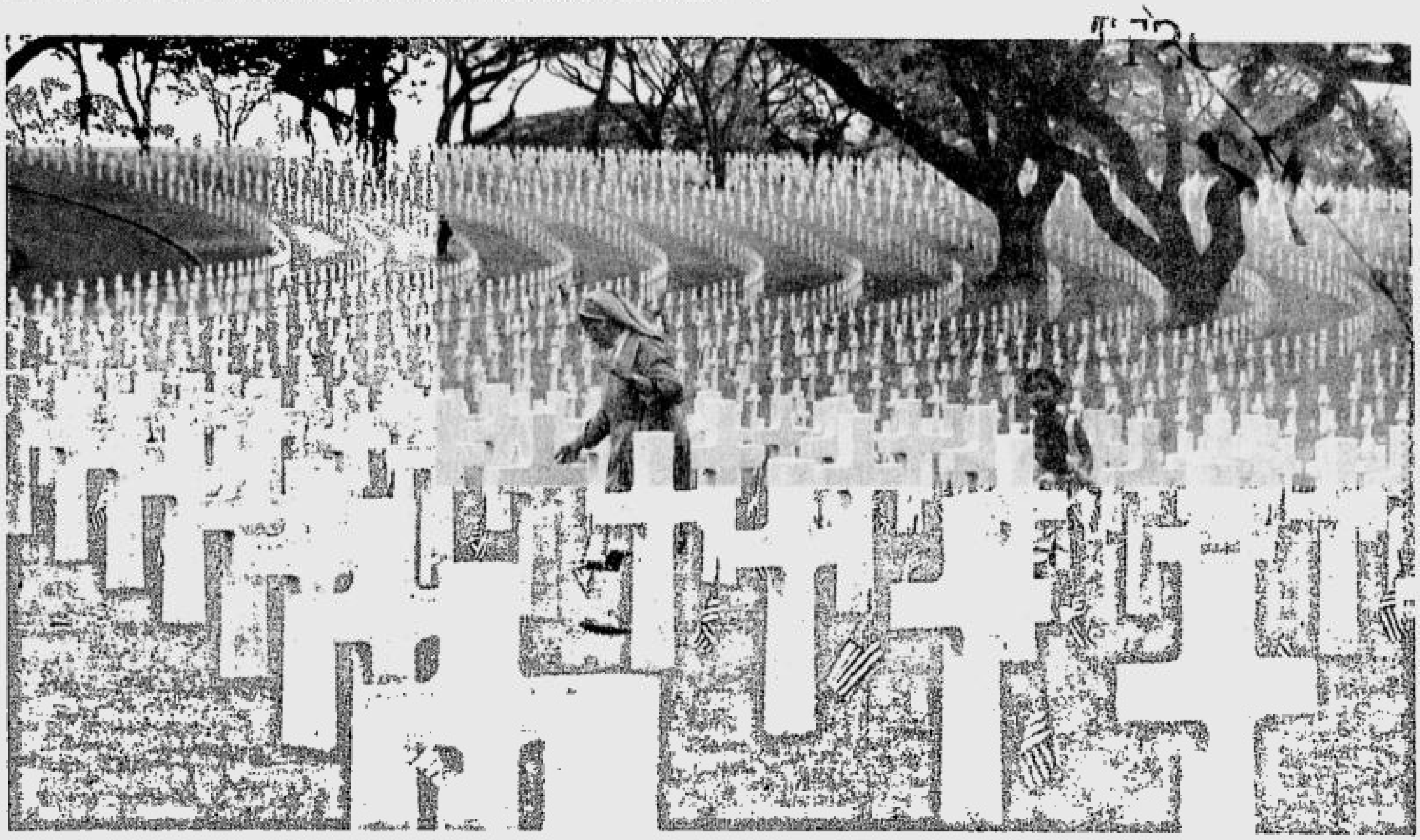
In recent years, the oversight functions of Congress have been broadened through the creation of joint committees to oversee the implementation of the Anti-Money Laundering Act, the Power Sector Restructuring Act, devolution of local governments, the Visiting Forces Agreement and labor laws.

But Pimentel decried the partisanship that sometimes marked the work of the oversight committees. Legislative inquiries should be spared from partisan influence, he said, for Congress to discharge its functions credibly and effectively.

Pimentel's statement came in the wake of continued infighting in the Senate over whether former President Fidel V. Ramos should be summoned to give his side in the purchased power adjustment controversy.

"Since the committee is necessarily composed of politicians who come from different parties or political persuasions, its decisions are sometimes colored by political considerations rather than by what is legal, right and just," Pimentel said.

The senator noted that the resolutions of oversight committees were necessarily the "product of compromise." Decisions were not made in the manner of judicial proceedings but as the result of political discourse, he said. ***With reports from Rocky Nazareno and Cynthia Balana***



JOAN BONDOC

MEMORIAL DAY

Sister Cresencia of Cagayan de Oro City visits a fallen relative who had served in the US Navy at the Manila American Cemetery, one of 24 cemeteries outside the United States, which will mark Memorial Day.

Tell Meralco to cut rates, GMA urged

From page A1

P11 billion after the ERB found Meralco overbilling its customers.

Cuna said the Court of Appeals had cleared Meralco of allegations of overcharging in 1999 and that the case was now with the Supreme Court.

Enraged public

Remulla asked Meralco to disclose its financial records "to avoid an outbreak of violent confrontation against an enraged public."

Reyes said Bayan had given Ms Macapagal until June 5 to immediately order a rate reduction for Meralco.

"Should she continue with her compromising attitude on the issue of power rates, she will certainly be at the receiving end of nationwide mass protest actions that will kick off on May 30 and culminate in June 5," Reyes said.

In the Senate, Sen. Teresa Aquino-Oreta asked the ERC to junk Meralco's petition to increase its rates in the wake of the report that it was overcharging its customers.

Oreta said the ERC should stop hearing Meralco's petition and instead take steps against the power firm for jacking up its profits to the detriment of electricity users in Metro Manila and nearby provinces.

ERC chief Fe Barin has said the commission would continue to conduct hearings on Meralco's petition for a rate increase despite the findings of the independent study submitted to Malacañang.

"We hope that the ERC will decide in favor of the aggrieved party—Meralco's customers—and throw out Meralco's petition for a rate increase," Oreta said.

"Why should the ERC entertain this rate petition when it should instead tell Meralco to slash its electricity billings to make up for its overcharges," she said.

Same report

Reyes said the report was the same one that the energy department disclosed to reporters in April.

Last month, Energy Secretary Vincent Perez Jr. announced that a study conducted by his department found that Meralco's proposed unbundled rates were "excessive and unjustifiable."

Perez had said that Meralco included in its unbundling petition a request to increase allowable profits to 17 percent from 12 percent.

Unbundling refers to the breaking down of the monthly bill into generation, transmission, distribution supply, metering and universal charges.

Perez yesterday said the "overbilling" report was different from the study that his department disclosed in April.

"The DoE received many unsolicited studies on (issues concerning) the energy sector, including ones tackling Meralco's rates," Perez said in an interview.

He said the energy department came up with the report in April upon the President's request.

"We previously expressed our opinion on Meralco's unbundling petition and this is now solely in the hands of the ERC," the energy chief said. "We have faith in the competence and integrity of the ERC (on this matter)."

The unbundling of power rates is expected to take effect starting next month.

The Electric Power Industry Reform Act (Epira) gives the ERC until June 26 to decide on the unbundling petitions of 140 private utilities and electric cooperatives.

Barin had earlier noted the unbundling of rates would raise power costs because the base year for the new rates was 2000. The last time many distributors adjusted their prices was in the early 1990s.

The Freedom from Debt Coalition (FDC) is calling on the Joint Congressional Power Commission to review Epira's implementing rules on unbundling.

FDC spokesperson Jude Esguerra said the unbundling of rates should have a separate rule from the rebasing of rates.

"Rates unbundling should not increase the revenues of the utilities," Esguerra said. "We can't do this if we base the new rates in 2000 costs."

Military . . .

From page A1

NEW Southern Command chief Maj. Gen. Ernesto Carolina talks about the progress of military operations to rescue American missionary couple Martin and Gracia Burnham and Filipino nurse Ediborah Yap, who were seized a year ago by the Abu Sayyaf. AP

area and rough topography of the island where the Burnhams and Filipino nurse Ediborah Yap are being held hostage.

"The whole Basilan is twice as big as Metro Manila, and the population is thinly spread," he said. "It's also very mountainous and hilly, crisscrossed by rivers and streams. On its coastal area, the mangroves are bountiful."

Carolina said that with 95 percent of the Abu Sayyaf problem solved, "maybe the 5 percent is the harder portion of the job."

"It is in the finishing touches that we have to be very careful," he said.

Dead and wounded

According to the accomplishment report of the Southern Command's Operation Division, 81 soldiers have been killed and 216 have been wounded since June 1 last year.

The report also said the Abu Sayyaf suffered 241 deaths in the course of the military operations in Basilan and Sulu. It said that the AFP arrested 230 suspected Abu Sayyaf members, and that 188 members surrendered.

Carolina said that of the total number of casualties on the military side, only 43 soldiers were killed while trying to rescue the Burnhams and Yap.

The Philippine military's failure to produce results in its rescue operations is made more significant by the presence in Basilan of American troops, including members of the US Special Forces.

Capt. James Mauldin, commander of the US 1st Special Forces Group now in Basilan for the RP-US Balikatan exercise, said, "it is tragic for us that the Burnhams are still held captive."

But he added: "In due time, the prayers of (the Burnhams' friends and relatives) will be answered."

Col. Alexander Yapching, chief of Task Force Zamboanga, said he could see the eagerness of the US troops to join the rescue mission.

"I can see in (the American soldiers') faces the aggressiveness to help us in ending the problem," Yapching said.

He said the American forces were instrumental in tracking down some of the members of the Abu Sayyaf but that Philippine troops were on top of the rescue operation.

"We borrowed some of their sophisticated equipment to detect the enemy, but they are limited to that aspect," Yapching said. "It's our soldiers who do the pursuing."

Mabanta said the rescue of the hostages was imminent.

"Let's just wait," he said. "Things may be coming up within the next few days." ***With a report from TJ Burgonio in Manila***

Flight . . .

From page A1

"We will be promoting it as a wildflower sanctuary to tourists, considering that it is kind of awful to remember the incident. However, this park will make the visits of the victims' relatives convenient and (give) a chance for others to set foot on the exotic municipality of Claveria," Pabayo said.

Wildflower grows abundantly in the area.

Relatives of the crash victims often visit the Cagayan de Oro Gardens, where the recovered bodies are buried.

Many of them have wanted to go to Mt. Sumagaya, Pabayo said, but could not do so because there was no place to stay.

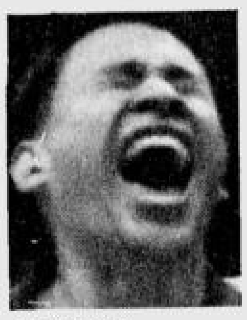
It was the DOT's idea to put up cottages at the shrine. The shrine includes benches, cottages, a lagoon and several pathways. It will be open to the public as soon as landscaping is completed.

The shrine was built from the funds of Sen. Robert Jaworski, whose son Robert Jr. attended the groundbreaking ceremony in February 1999.

PATHWAYS cut the landscape of the Flight 347 memorial site. GRACE ALBASIN

PBA POSTMORTEM

Ryan learns from past lessons



GREGORIO

By June Navarro

FOR champion coach Ryan Gregorio, the victory of the Purefoods TJ Hotdogs in the recent PBA Samsung Governors Cup was a by-product of all the bitter lessons he learned from the past.

"It was the result of all the things that I have learned when I was still in the collegiate ranks," said Gregorio, who had fruitless stints as head coach of the UP Maroons in the UAAP at the end of the 90s.

"So those valuable lessons that I learned before propelled me to make adjustments and do things necessary in a championship game," added Gregorio.

All those years of frustration suddenly ended Sunday night when the Hotdogs nailed their sixth crown overall after a resounding 85-78 Game 7 victory over the Alaska Aces.

"I didn't look at it as a setback but as a learning experience. This will definitely build up my confidence but just the same I'm just starting to learn the ropes of coaching," said Gregorio. At 30, Gregorio became the first rookie coach to call the shots in a Game 7 and win the crown.

The former UP Maroon also entered the record books as the third youngest coach to win a title after Tommy Manotoc and Chot Reyes.

Manotoc was 29 years old when he steered U-Tex to the championship in 1978 while Reyes, bearing the same age, piloted Coney Island to the title in 1993.

Yet Gregorio would rather beam at the thought of Purefoods clinching its first title in five years than gloat over his record-breaking feat.

"I just feel fortunate that I'm part of history every time people talk about things like coming back from a 0-2 deficit," said Gregorio. "As a matter of fact, I'm not concerned about the records that I have achieved," he added.

SPORTS ON TV

Compiled by Lorenzo Manguiat

BASKETBALL: NBA Playoffs Conference Finals—New Jersey at Boston, Game 4 at 5:30 a.m. on ESPN

TENNIS: 2002 French Open beginning at 5 p.m. on Sky Cable and Home Cable 29

MOTOR SPORTS: Indianapolis 500 at 9 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. (r) on Star Sports

Horry triple lifts . . .

From page A22

As the confidence on his face showed, it wasn't Horry's first time as a postseason hero.

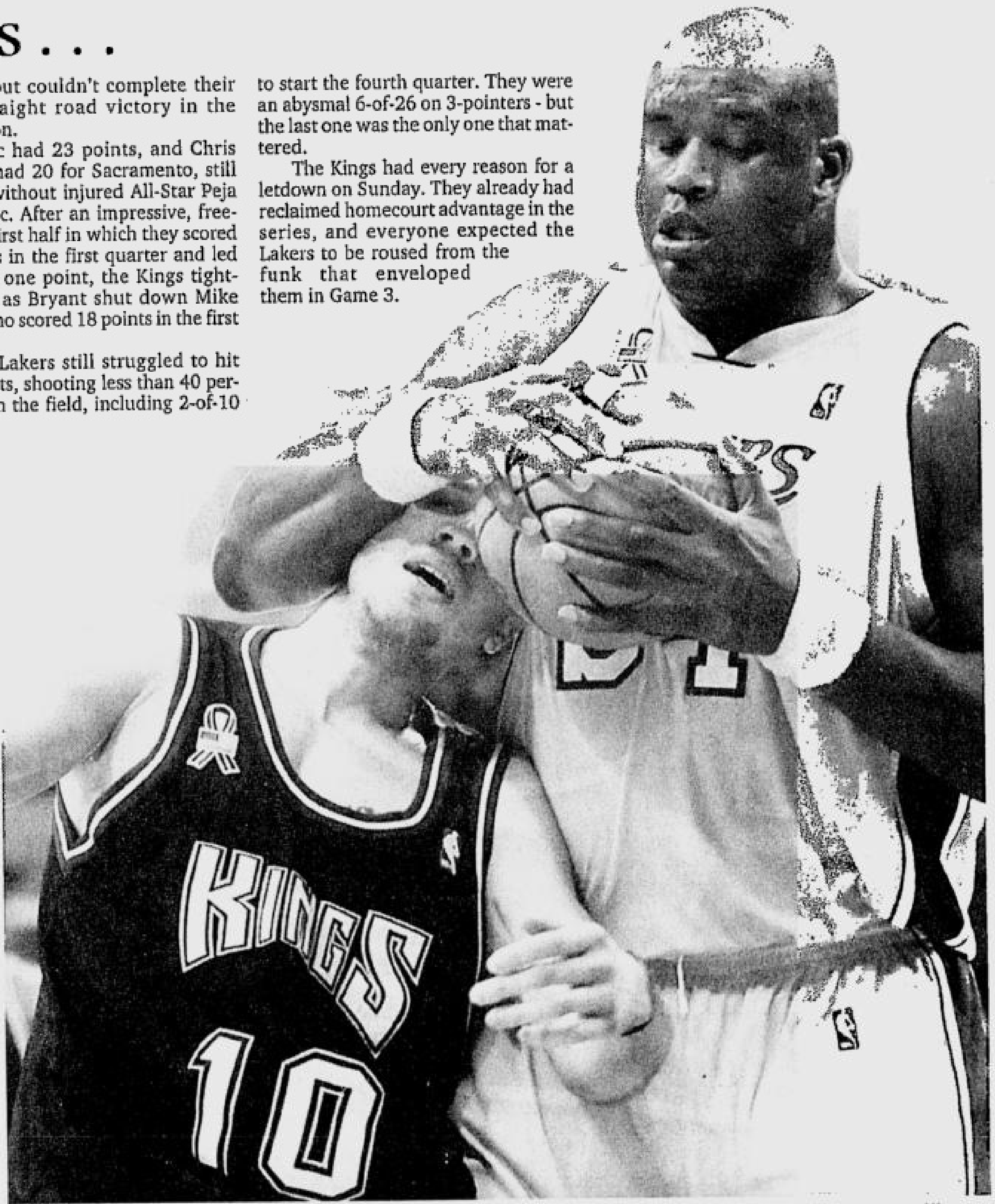
In Game 3 of the first round at Portland, he hit a decisive 3-pointer with 2.1 seconds left. In Game 5 of the conference semifinals against San Antonio, Horry's 3-pointer with 56 seconds remaining gave the Lakers a seven-point cushion as they finished off the Spurs.

It might be a crushing loss for the Kings, who had several opportunities to finish off the Lakers in the fourth quarter but couldn't complete their sixth straight road victory in the postseason.

Divac had 23 points, and Chris Webber had 20 for Sacramento, still playing without injured All-Star Peja Stojakovic. After an impressive, free-flowing first half in which they scored 40 points in the first quarter and led 50-26 at one point, the Kings tightened up as Bryant shut down Mike Bibby, who scored 18 points in the first half.

The Lakers still struggled to hit open shots, shooting less than 40 percent from the field, including 2-of-10 to start the fourth quarter. They were an abysmal 6-of-26 on 3-pointers - but the last one was the only one that mattered.

The Kings had every reason for a letdown on Sunday. They already had reclaimed homecourt advantage in the series, and everyone expected the Lakers to be roused from the funk that enveloped them in Game 3.



SHAQUILLE O'Neal (right) of the Los Angeles grabs the rebound and the head of Mike Bibby of the Sacramento Kings during third quarter action of Game 4. The Lakers rallied from 24 points down to post a 100-99 victory and level their series at 2-2.

AP

Demoralizing loss by Kings

NBA NOTES

Henry Liao

IT'S down to a two-of-three-games affair in the best-of-seven West Finals series after the two-time defending NBA champion LA Lakers scored a dramatic, come-from-behind 100-99 victory over the Sacramento Kings in Game 4 yesterday at the Staples Center to even the series at two games apiece.

The Lakers, who took the series opener at the Arco Arena but dropped the next two games, including a humiliating 103-90 home setback in Game 3, trailed by 20 points after the first 12 minutes (40-20) and fell behind by as much as 24 in the second quarter in the lethargic start for a second consecutive game. Steadily, they chipped away the deficit, however, and finally took only their second lead of the game (after 2-0) on Robert Horry's incredible three-pointer at the buzzer to pull off the unbelievable feat and pin the Kings with their first road loss in six games in the playoffs.

For Sacramento, it was a demoralizing defeat that it needs to forget quickly. The Kings, who regained homecourt advantage by grabbing Game 3, will play host to Game 5 tomorrow (May 29, Manila time).

GMA gives cash bonus to athletes

PRESIDENT Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo handed cash incentives to Olympic, Asian Games and four-year world Asian championship medalists under Republic Act No. 9064 in special awarding ceremonies yesterday at the Grand Plaza Ballroom, Westin Philippine Plaza.

Chair of the House committee on youth and sports, Rep. Monico Puentevella, Sen. Robert Jaworski and Sen. Vicente Sotto were among the top government officials who graced the historic occasion.

"This is a very significant achievement for the Philippine Sports Commission. These veterans are the inspiration of the young athletes and the sports officials to strive for excellence," PSC Chair Eric Buhain noted.

Sen. Jaworski, author of R.A. 9064 otherwise known as the "Athletes, Coaches and Trainers Incentives Act," and Senator Sotto were also recipients of the Athletes Incentives Act of 2001, but both senators donated their cash incentives to the athletes through the PSC.

Six-time World FIQ Champion Olivia "Bong Coo" Garcia led Filipino athletes in receiving their cash incentives. The first Filipina athlete featured in the Guinness Book of World Records, Coo received a check amounting P1 million.

BLAST FROM THE PAST

TODAY in 1990, Herman Suizo clocked 31:18 to break his 31:42 record and rule the 2nd Coke-Arro 10K Classic in Makati City.

SPORTSWATCH

Filipino boxers leave for Greece

VETERANS Arlan Lorie and Larry Semillano will be at the forefront when Team Caltex Philippines continues its buildup for the Busan Asian Games onwards to the Athens Olympics by joining the prestigious Acropolis Cup International Amateur Boxing Championships set for May 28-June 5 in Athens, Greece. Joining Lerio (bantamweight) and Semillano (lightfeatherweight) in the six-man squad backed mainly by Caltex Philippines are Harry Tanamor (lightflyweight), Violito Payla (flyweight), Genebert Basadre (featherweight) and Maraon Goles (middleweight). The Athens trip is part of Abap's extensive program to boost our boxers' bid in the coming Asian Games in Busan, South Korea and onwards to the Athens Olympic said Abap president Manny T. Lopez. The boys are ready and raring to give their best shots in the Acropolis Cup. Abap chair and Northern Samar Gov. Raul Daza is the head of delegation. Also comprising the squad which is leaving Tuesday night (May 28) are Patricio Gaspi (coach), Alexander Arroyo (assistant coach) and Darcito Teodoro (referee/judge). *Edwin Villanueva*

French Open on; Capriati ready

PARIS—Jennifer Capriati hasn't sneaked a peek at one of the most dramatic victories of her career. Why watch it when her mind provides the best replay of all? Her win over Kim Clijsters in last year's French Open final was tennis at its edgy best, two friends slugging it out before Capriati captured an exhausting, yet exhilarating, 12-10 third-set tiebreaker. When the tournament begins Monday, one of Capriati's biggest rivals, No. 2-seeded Venus Williams, kicks off play against Bianka Lamade of Germany. Sixth-seeded Monica Seles, fresh off a victory in Madrid, meets Angeles Montolio of Spain. *AP*

Sports seminar starts today

GOVERNMENT'S comprehensive and multi-pronged approach toward developing sports in Mindanao, the Philippine Sports Commission's Sports For Peace TOP-START Program, hits its second leg beginning today (May 28) in Tagum, Davao del Norte. TOP-START, or Trainers and Officials' Program and Sports Training for Athletes, is a 12-day seminar catering to athletes aged 18 and below and to Mindanao coaches. It also aims to promote and foster peace and unity among Mindanao's Lumads, Muslims and Christians through excellence in sports.

Riviera hosts Sagip Buhay golfest

THE FOURTH Sagip Buhay Golf Classic will be staged at its home course, The Riviera Golf and Country Club, in Silang, Cavite. A fund-raising event held yearly by the Sagip Buhay Foundation Inc. of the UP-PGH Department of Medicine for the benefit of their indigent patients, it is expected to have a field of about 160 players. The event is sponsored by ABS-CBN, Astra Zeneca, Aventis, Boehringer Ingelheim, Cocolife, Glaxo Smith Kline, Globe Telecom, IWMI, La Panday Holding Corp., Pagcor, Philcom, Pharmacia, Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office, San Miguel Corporation, The Zuellig Foundation and United Laboratories, Inc. Interested parties may call 5264372.

Elorde's presents 'War at the Casino'

TWO international title bouts and one Philippine championship highlight Johnny Elorde's "The War at the Casino," a grudge match of top contenders making their buildup for world title bouts, on June 15 at the Casino Filipino Amphitheater in Parañaque City. Dennis Laurente defends his OPBF lightweight crown against Indonesia's Ferdinan, who beat him by decision in a 10-rounder before hometown crowd in Jakarta last year.

Furyk rules Memorial tilt

DUBLIN, Ohio—Jim Furyk proved to be a worthy successor to Tiger Woods' three-year reign in the Memorial Tournament.

On a day of dramatic shots that began after Woods was gone, Furyk chipped in for birdie and holed a bunker shot for eagle during a back-nine charge that carried him to a 7-under 65 and a two-stroke victory Sunday.

It was the lowest final round by a winner in the 27-year history of the Memorial, and it capped an exciting afternoon at Muirfield Village in which 12 players were separated by two shots, all of them on the back nine.

Furyk finished at 14-under 274 and earned $846,000 for his seventh career victory.

John Cook, who lived at Muirfield Village while playing at Ohio State University, had a 69 and finished two strokes back, along with David Peoples (68). Furyk also gave the Memorial its first champion other than Woods since 1998.

Woods was trying to become the first player in 75 years to win the same tournament four straight years, but never had a chance. He started the final round 12 shots back, and a ho-hum 66 only gave him a tie for 22nd. *AP*

Diaz holds off Jones

CORNING, New York —Laura Diaz became the first native New Yorker to win the Corning Classic, shooting a 2-under-par 70 on Sunday for a two-stroke victory over Rosie Jones. Diaz, of Scotia, New York, finished at 14-under-par 274.

RP boxing body eyed

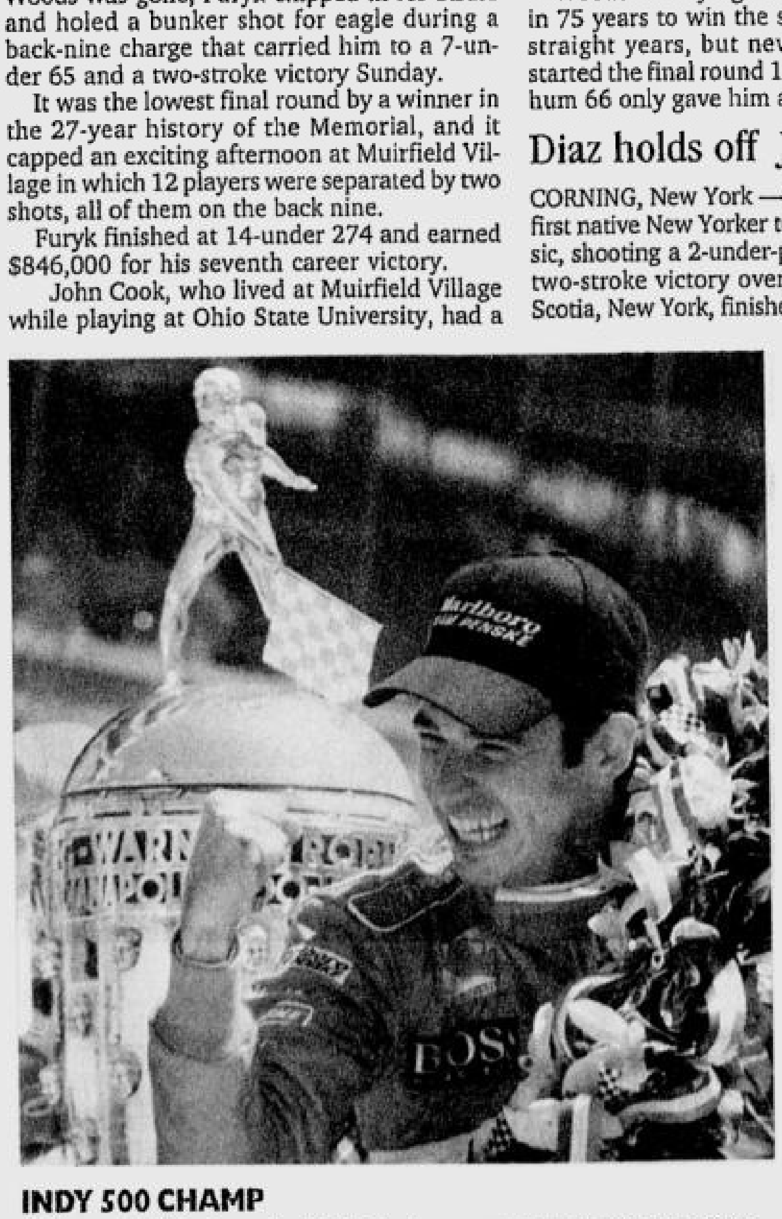
PASAY City Mayor Peewee Trinidad and boxing patron Tony Aldeguer have expressed their support for the creation of a Philippine Boxing Authority to supervise and govern the sport in the country.

"I'm 100 percent behind this long-overdue proposal," said Trinidad, a former respected international boxing judge.

"I'm ready and willing to serve," said the Cebu-based Aldeguer.

The proposal, addressed to President Macapagal and coursed through Presidential Adviser on Media Affairs Dante Ang, came about because of recent ring deaths, most alarming of which was the death on April 24 of boxer Meruel Sayas in Tarlac.

Under the proposal, the Philippine Boxing Authority, to be put under the Games and Amusements Board, will be the sole governing body of local professional boxing. Not the GAB boxing division, which is in fact merely a licensing arm.



INDY 500 CHAMP

Indianapolis 500 champion Helio Castroneves of Brazil pumps his fist in front of the Borg-Warner Trophy after his second-consecutive victory in the event on Sunday in Indianapolis. Castroneves won his second Indy 500 and then waited more than 5 1/2 hours before the victory was upheld when fast-closing Paul Tracy's pass on the next-to-last lap was disallowed. An official review determined that the pass came seconds after the final caution light froze the field in position.

AP

Tabuena sets record in Canlubang Jungolf

MIGUEL Tabuena set a scoring record en route to a big victory in boys Class E (8 years and under) as he led the winners of the recent Canlubang Jungolf Open, the eighth and penultimate leg of the Philippine Airlines-sponsored jungolf summer circuit.

Tabuena, who broke into the limelight when he was featured in a television commercial as a swimming toddler, posted a 13-under 59 in the first round that carried him to a five-stroke victory over Bino dela Paz in the rain-shortened tournament.

It is believed that Tabuena is the first local player to have broken 60 in a course that was set up for players of his age.

For his victory, Tabuena clinched one of the slots disputed for the US kids championships in Williamsburg, Virginia, USA late in July which was disputed in the tourney.

Dottie Ardina (girls Class E), Mia Piccio (girls Class D), Holen Juan Superal (boys Class D), Allan Guy (boys Class C) and Katrina Briones (girls Class C) also qualified for the US Kids by virtue of being the winners in their respective divisions.

Sabal, Madredia sparkle

REIGNING Prisaa 10,000-meter king Cresenciano Sabal and Philippine Navy's Juvy Madredia dominated last Sunday' 19th edition of the Runnex Anniversary Run in an out-and-back course that started at the Quezon Memorial Circle.

Sabal, a 21-year-old personnel management student at the De La Salle (Dasmariñas, Cavite), started moving away from the pack after the second lap of the University of the Philippines loop and never looked back. He clocked one hour and 17 minutes to pocket the P5,000 top purse plus a crafted trophy in the 21-kilometer featured race organized by Runnex and backed by Pharmaton Capsules.

FOUR DIGIT
Luzon 6 5 9 6
(in exact order)
Vis / Min 8 7 3 8

MEGALOTTO 6/45
20 2 15 34 27 38
P74,967,698.40

SPORTS

Editor Al S. Mendoza ◎ Assistant Editor Edwin M. Villanueva

Horry triple lifts Lakers

LA rallies to tie series vs Sacramento Kings, 2-2

LOS ANGELES—Robert Horry of the Los Angeles Lakers hit a 3-pointer at the buzzer Sunday as the Lakers rallied from a 24-point deficit for a thrilling 100-99 victory over the Sacramento Kings, tying the Western Conference finals at two games apiece.

"I didn't look at the clock. I didn't even worry about that," Horry said. "I just took my time to knock it down."

Horry scored 11 of his 18 points in the fourth quarter as the Lakers willed themselves to an amazing victory in a game they desperately needed to keep their championship hopes alive. Horry hit the final shot, but an outstanding second half of defense kept the Kings from grabbing control of the series.

Game 5 is Tuesday night (Wednesday morning in Manila) in Sacramento, with Game 6 back at Staples Center on Friday night.

The Kings blew out Los Angeles in Game 3 Friday night, putting the two-time champions in desperate straits entering Game 4. Faced with the prospect of a 3-1 series deficit–which the Lakers haven't rallied to overcome in 31 years–Los Angeles got 27 points and 18 rebounds from Shaquille O'Neal.

Sacramento roared to its second spectacular start at Staples Center, scoring 40 points in the first quarter and taking a 14-point lead to halftime. But the Kings fumbled through the second half, and Vlade Divac missed a free throw with 11.8 seconds left.

The victory came one day after the New Jersey Nets' unprecedented fourth-quarter playoff collapse against the Boston Celtics in Game 3 of the Eastern Conference finals.

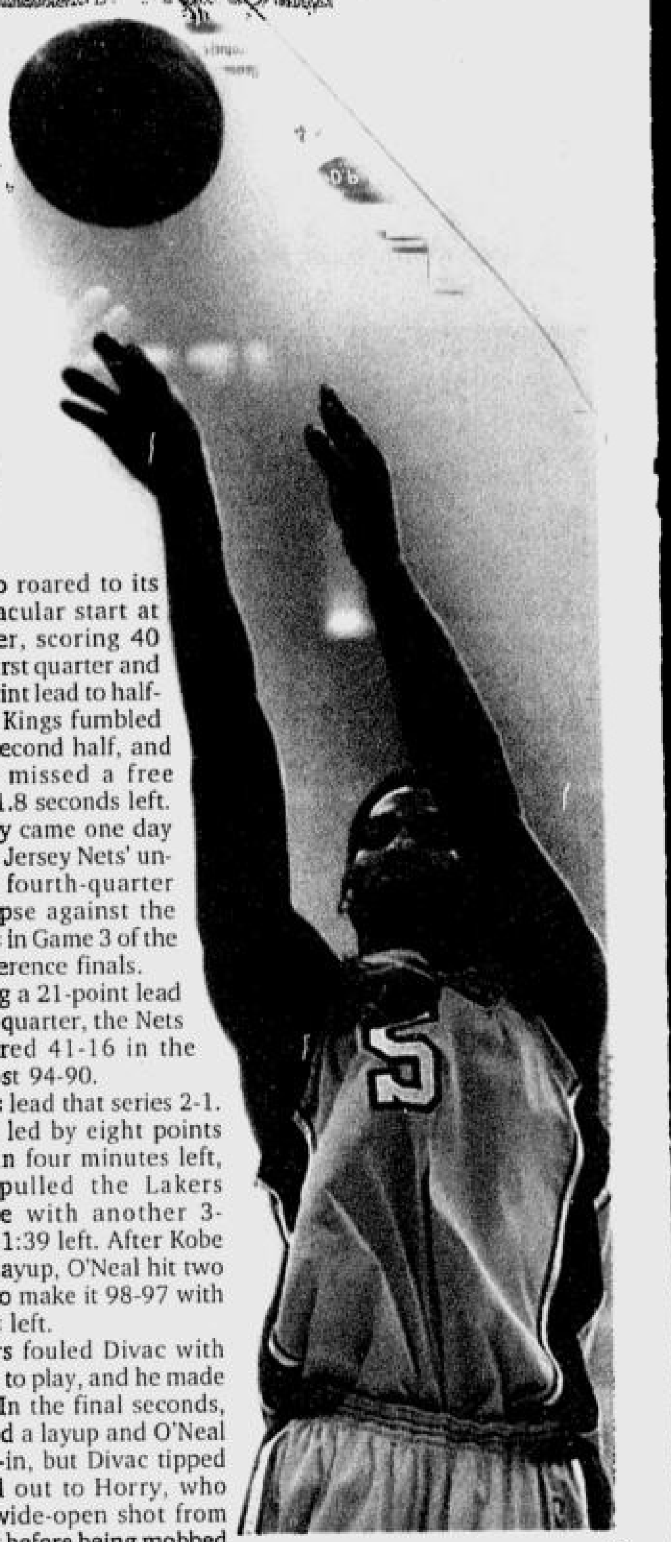
After taking a 21-point lead into the final quarter, the Nets were outscored 41-16 in the fourth and lost 94-90.

The Celtics lead that series 2-1.

The Kings led by eight points with less than four minutes left, but Horry pulled the Lakers within three with another 3-pointer with 1:39 left. After Kobe Bryant hit a layup, O'Neal hit two free throws to make it 98-97 with 26.9 seconds left.

The Lakers fouled Divac with 11.8 seconds to play, and he made one of two. In the final seconds, Bryant missed a layup and O'Neal missed a tip-in, but Divac tipped the rebound out to Horry, who buried the wide-open shot from straightaway before being mobbed by his teammates.

HORRY/A21



AP

HORRY unleashes the game-winning triple at the buzzer.

Ateneo, La Salle whip PBL rivals

GAMES TOMORROW
(Makati Coliseum)
3 p.m.—Ateneo vs Kutitap
5 p.m.—ICTSI-La Salle vs Shark

By Dennis Eroa

LEADER Ateneo-Hapee-Negros Navigation outlasted Shark Energy Drink, 67-60, to keep the solo lead, even as ace playmaker Mike Cortez returned in style as ICTSI-La Salle routed Blu Sun Power, 77-63, yesterday in the PBL Chairman's Cup semifinals at the Pasig Sports Center.

The Blue Eagles proved steadier down the stretch against the Energy Drink Kings en route to their 10th win in 13 games.

Earlier, the 6-foot Cortez scattered 11 points, but his presence inspired teammates Chico Lanete, Mark Magsumbol and Bernzon Franco to hit double figures which proved too hot to handle for the erratic Detergent Kings.

ICTSI, thus, snapped its two-game losing streak, while improving to 8-4 win-loss card, good enough for second place.

Without Cortez, who went to the United States for personal reasons, the Green Archers went 0-2. He returned last Saturday and immediately made an impact with ICTSI.

Not getting good numbers from their big men, Blu absorbed its second straight setback in the double round-robin semis and dropped to 8-6 win-loss slate.

With Cortez orchestrating plays, the Green Archers got off to a flying start as the Detergent Kings were unable to find their halfcourt game.

Scores:

ICTSI 77—Magsumbol 15, Lanete 11, Cortez 11, Franco 11, Uy 9, Wilson 6, Daep 5, Yap 2, Ramos 2, Zamora 2, Cuan 0.

BLU 63—Dimaunahan 16, Calo 10, Legaspi 10, Latoreno 6, Codamon 5, Coquilla 5, Machica 4, De la Cuesta 3, Santos 2, Roldan 2, Gottenbos 0, Gatumbato 0.

Quarters: 14-11, 39-22, 60-38, 77-63.

Pinoy tracksters see action in Kazakhstan

By Marc Anthony Reyes

TO further raise their level of performance, Eduardo Buenavista, John Lozada and several other Filipino tracksters who won medals in the recent Asian track and field Grand Prix third leg are set to see action in the Kazakhstan Open next week.

Athletics chief Go Teng Kok yesterday said about seven members of the national team will be sent to the prestigious tournament where they are expected to face athletes from the former Soviet republics.

Joining the runners in Kazakhstan are Lerma Bulauitan, Maristela Torres, Ernie Candelario and a few others who will be recommended by the pool of national coaches.

"These are the same athletes who will make up our athletics team in the Busan Asian Games," said Go. "So it's very important that we test how tough they really are."

Go's charges won one gold, one silver and three bronzes in the third and final leg of the Grand Prix held at the Rizal track oval.

After the Kazakhstan stint, the crack team will then compete in the China and Japan Open in July before going to the Asian Championships in Sri Lanka in August.

Buenavista outlasted Indian rival Sivananda Sunday for the 3,000m gold. He earlier won two silver medals in the first two legs in Hyderabad, India and Bangkok, Thailand, respectively.

at the Men's Wear Department
THE BIG JAG SALE
up to 50% off on selected items
May 27 to June 9
SM
We've got it all for you!
DEPARTMENT STORE
QUIAPO • MAKATI • CUBAO • HARRISON • NORTH EDSA • STA. MESA • ORTIGAS • LAS PINAS • BACOOR • FAIRVIEW • MANILA • PAMPANGA • ILOILO • CEBU • DAVAO

SIGNET's Hot Summer Bonus!
FREE 1 Year Comprehensive Insurance
FREE Chattel Mortgage Fee
FREE 1 Year LTO Registration
FREE Tint, Matting & Seat Cover
Promo Period:
May 15 to 31, 2002
D.P. P100,000
21 SEATER CARRY ALL
KC2700 PANORAMIC
Also Available in Aluminum Van & Dropside
S.R.P. P500,000
PREGIO D.P. P125,000
S.R.P. P625,000
Introducing:
The New 2002 Pregio GS Special Edition and LS with Captain Seats
SEDONA RS
Manual & Automatic Transmission
S.R.P. P885,000 (manual)
S.R.P. P935,000 (automatic)
D.P. P177,000 (manual)
D.P. P187,000 (automatic)
D.P. P113,800 (manual)
D.P. P121,800 (automatic)
RIO Hatchback
S.R.P. P549,000 (manual)
S.R.P. P609,000 (automatic)
D.P. P135,000
4 x 4 CROSSTRAK
S.R.P. P675,000
With a New 3 Year Warranty on PREGIO and SEDONA
KIA
KIA Balintawak (Signet Balintawak)
1240 Edsa Balintawak Q.C.
(Sales) 361-0544; 361-6556; 330-8019; 330-6670
362-5091; 362-5092
(Service) 361-0665; 361-8356; 330-6708 Fax: 362-8357
KIA Mandaluyong (Signet Mand.)
# 79 EDSA Mandaluyong City
Tels.: 531-4631 to 33; 531-1949;
531-4424 Fax: 531-4380
KIA Makati (Signet Makati)
La Fuerza Plaza
2241 Pasong Tamo St., Makati City
Tels.: 817-8416; 817-8417; 817-8406
Telefax: 817-8421
KIA Las Piñas (Signet Las Piñas)
(In front of SM Southmall)
Tels.: 806-2235; 801-7656;
801-7668; 802-1024 Telefax:806-2230
Subject to Bank Approval
Installment Plan: 24 months to 60 months
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1934 Series of 2002

STOP HAIR LOSS at SVENSON
Call us now! 243-0128

Reyes turns himself in/A24

METRO
Editor Louie C. Camino

On Target: Solons ganging up on Chinoy /A24

Move Manila City Jail, mayor urges

Purefoods vs Alaska: 1 injured

By Alcuin Papa

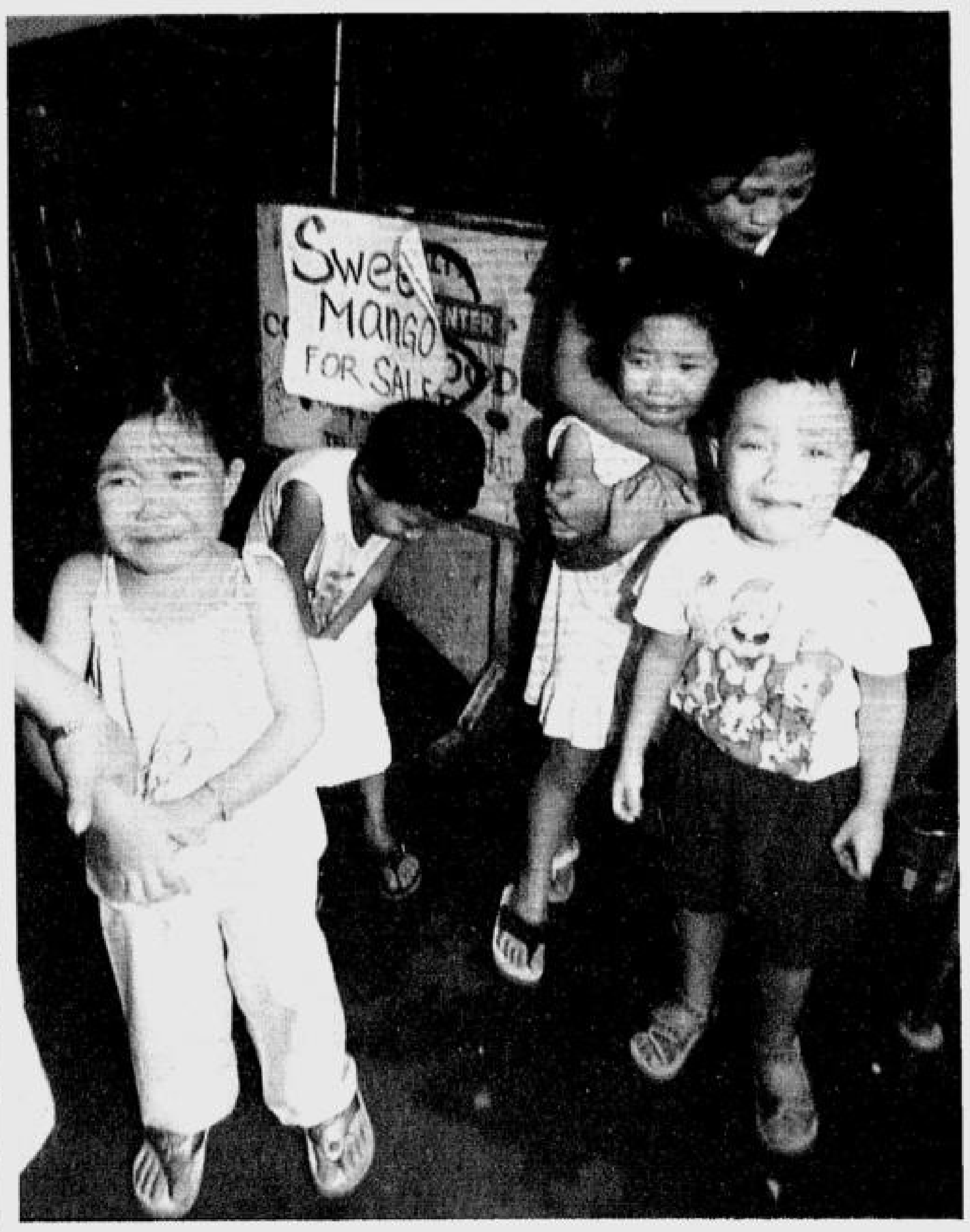
JOSELITO Andaya, a fan of the Alaska Aces basketball team, felt bitter when his team lost in the Philippine Basketball Association championship game and he took his frustration out on Jesus Malogan, a supporter of the winning Purefoods Hotdog team whom he stabbed dead in Makati City Sunday night.

Malogan, of Kalayaan Avenue, Tejeros, Makati, is in critical condition at the Makati Medical Center, police said.

SPO1 Lewelie Cristobal of the Makati City homicide division said Andaya, 27, also of Kalayaan Avenue, was watching the game with Malogan. When it ended with the defeat of Alaska, 91-76, Malogan was quoted as asking Andaya, "Why do you keep on betting on Alaska when they always lose?"

This led to an argument, until a peeved Andaya pulled out a knife and stabbed Malogan once, Cristobal said.

Andaya tried to escape but was caught by barangay watchmen.



CHILDREN OF DEMOLITION
The Boco siblings (from left) Angelica, Barry, Vanna, and Eris and an older girl cry as demolition workers tear down houses, including their own, at the corner of Zobel Roxas and Alabastro streets in San Andres Bukid in Manila. ERIK ARAZAS

By Jerome Aning

AS THE number of deaths among inmates at the Manila City Jail reached nine after three weeks; Mayor Lito Atienza urged the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology to decide quickly on the transfer of the facility to Camp Bagong Diwa in Taguig.

"Is the BJMP waiting for more inmates to die?" Atienza said in a press statement. "How many more deaths would it take before they finally act?"

He said he knows that the inmates "are forced to live in subhuman conditions, a clear violation of their rights under the Constitution."

He cited Section 18 of the Bill of Rights which says the use of "substandard or inadequate penal facilities shall be dealt with by law."

"Their living quarters are cramped, the heat is unbearable during summer and there is flooding during the rainy season," Atienza said. "This is why disease spreads quickly."

The BJMP conceived the plan of gathering surplus inmates of Metro Manila's city and municipal jails in the Metro Manila Rehabilitation Center in Taguig.

The plan has not been fully implemented due to the opposition of the Taguig government and allegations of corruption in the construction of the facility.

Atienza said the MMRC is ready for occupancy but the BJMP has yet to make a decision whether or not to carry out the transfer.

He noted that the wardens who have been assigned to the city jail have failed to alleviate the difficult conditions of the inmates because doing anything about them is beyond their power as well as the available resources.

"Whoever is appointed warden of the MJC will surely fail in his job of providing decent living conditions to the inmates," the mayor said.

The city jail has 3,709 inmates although it was built for a maximum of only 1,000 inmates.

The mayor said the city government will conduct a series of medical checkups for the inmates starting next month.

But he added that for as long as the inmates remain in the overcrowded jail, the many problems of the inmates and jail authorities will persist.

American fugitive captured

By Philip Tubeza

MANILA policemen, with the help of Bureau of Immigration and Naval Intelligence agents, arrested a 49-year-old American wanted for large-scale fraud in the United States.

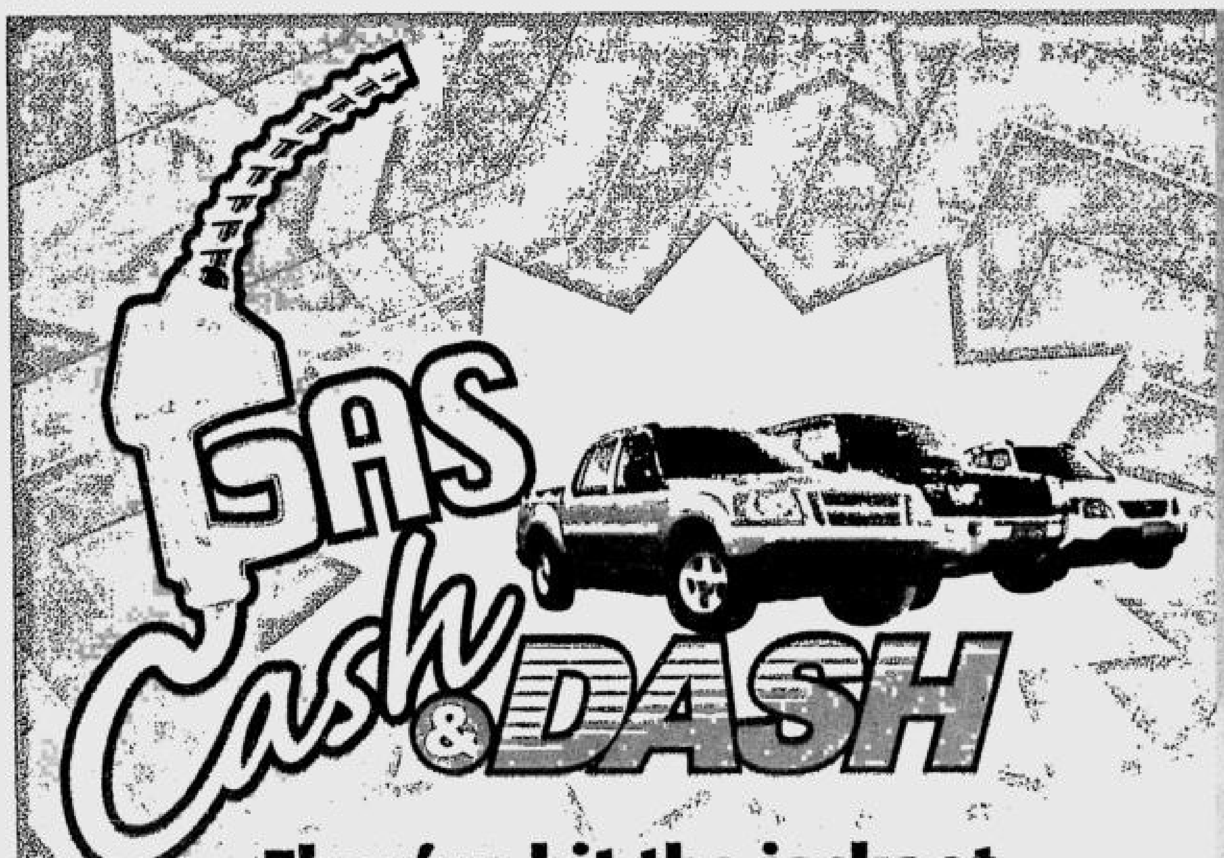
Frederick Joseph Carrier, alias Carlos White, and a native of Chicago, Illinois, was arrested on Friday, said Chief Insp. Marcelino Pedrozo Jr., head of the Western Police Dis-

AMERICAN/ A24

WAZZZZUP ?
ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

BUMA	MOONSTRUCKS DYNA SOULS	LESS 20% ON BILL WORH P1500.00 ☎896.1939
CASABLANCA Music Lounge EDSA SHANGRILA PLAZA	GOODAYS BAND MUSIC OF THE 60'S	☎687-0401 NO COVER CHARGE
Cowboy Grill BINAN, LAGUNA	FAT 16 PRYZM	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎(049) 511.7268
Cowboy Grill BRGY ALMANZA, LAS PINAS	PHYRIGIAN KOOLJACKS	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎801.7644
Cowboy Grill 1190 ARQUIZA ST., MABINI	J BROTHERS/ POWER SURGE THINKERS W/ JOGRAD	NO ENTRANCE FEE 525.1474/525.4269
Cowboy Grill 411 REMEDIOS ST., MALATE	SERSIDE ICE KENDI	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎521.8143
Cowboy Grill NOVALICHES Q.C.	THE DAWN MR ROXY	BEAT BOX ☎(049) 511.7268
TIA MARIA'S REMEDIOS COR CAROLINA ST	INNER CIRCLE VIEW	☎522-0429
Tropical FOREST Cafe · Grill · Restaurant TM KALAW, LUNETA, MANILA	SIDE A	BRING D WHOLE FAMILY & GET A FREE MEAL/400-7438/39

TUESDAY MAY 28 912-8983



They've hit the jackpot.

P 100,000.00

Ryan Esparagal • Metro Manila
Emmanuel L. Reyes • North Luzon
Richard Wilson Claveria • South Luzon
Edgardo J. Haro • Visayas
Benjie Lazaro • Mindanao

METRO MANILA
Kenneth Cheung
Antonio R. Pelovello
Moonyen Cazeñas
Lauro A. Tangco
Mary Aileen Licos
Patrick T. Yap
Romualdo Docena Jr.

NORTH LUZON
Agosto A. Dangwa
Eddi J. Matias
Enrico Dela Cruz
Arsenio J. Dumaguita
Rufo Nicolas
Jesus I. Salgado Jr.
Oscar Y. Bustamante

SOUTH LUZON
Edgar Cuasay
Leonardo V. Felonia Jr.
Marcelina M. Aguda
Jovito Moral
Ramil B. Borromeo
Liwa Punzalan

VISAYAS
Arnel Barcenas
Norlyn B. Lago
Ely Delos Reyes Tayo
Loraine Calderon
Roberto Veñalis
Federico Gulferic

MINDANAO
Elpie Ramos
Jonathan G. Sularan
Marissa L. Almabun
Ruben J. Haspe
Cesar Gingoyon Jr.
Rommel C. Claudiang

METRO MANILA
Ricardo L. Cabrera
Efren V. Marcial
Paul Calderaon
Reynaldo M. Ayangco
Marlon G. Gumapac
Edwin E. Martin
Purita Palinut

NORTH LUZON
Bernard Buslayan
Pascualito Alvezo
Malvin Pineda
Calixto Macalma
Winnie S. Ferrer
Paz Bascos
James Macayanes

SOUTH LUZON
Analiza Cornelio
Philip Gazar T. Royena
Arnel Cagitla
Cyril I. De Leon
Albert Masareta
Edmundante Tayco

VISAYAS
San Jose Water Works
Nelson P. Sambile
Arturo Ponte
Josefina Lua King
Nestor B. Andrade
Rutchel P. Casero

MINDANAO
Pablito C. Dapin
Mohamad M. Dayondong
Geralin Jing-Jing Brioso
Walter Nicholas
Jose P. Padernilla
Crisanto Simbajon

Congratulations to the winners of the Petron Gas, Cash and Dash first major draw held on May 11. Keep pumping up at Petron for your chance to win up to P100,000 cash in two more major draws or drive off with any of three Petron car showcases in the grand draw on July 20 on MTB. Join the Petron Gas, Cash and Dash raffle promo and hit the big time now!

PETRON Pusong Pinoy

Promo from April 12 to July 12, 2002. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0573, Series of 2002.

Reyes turns himself in

By Tina Santos

HE got tired of waiting to be arrested so "running priest" Fr. Robert Reyes yesterday morning decided to turn himself in to the authorities and face the P1-million libel charges filed against him by Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile and his son, Cagayan Rep. Juan Ponce "Jackie" Enrile Jr.

"I've decided to turn myself in to put a stop to all these," Reyes said. "Everybody's harassed, everybody's affected, especially the parishioners who worry so much about me."

About 50 parishioners accompanied Reyes when he surrendered. Most of them vowed not to leave him until he gets out of the Quezon City Jail.

Reyes said his parishioners worried even more when they found three wreaths of white and pink daisies and candles in front of the Parish of the Holy Sacrifice on the University of the Philippines campus, where he is the parish priest.

"If it were only me, I would not mind, I'm used to that," he said. "But a lot of people have been affected."

One of the parish collectors, Evelyn Cadiz, said that just before they discovered the wreaths and candles, she saw a jeepney with a man on board going around the parish early yesterday morning.

"I saw gun tucked in his waist," Cadiz said.

She said the man quickly disappeared when he noticed that he was already getting attention because she had told other people of his presence.

Reyes said his family, particularly his father who had just had a triple bypass operation, were not aware of his decision.

"Of course, they wouldn't have allowed me to turn myself in," he said. "I should be with my family especially at this time. But if something happened to my dad, God forbid, the Enriles won't see the last of me. One relative that has been wasted during the martial law is enough. All the cases filed against the Enriles during the martial law years were whitewashed."

The Enriles filed the libel charges against the priest for accusing them of killing Reyes' nephew, Ernest Robert Lucas, in 1975. Reyes made the accusation in an interview with TV host Paolo Bediones on "Extra, Extra."

Judge Normandy Pizzaro of the Quezon City Regional Trial Court Branch 100 issued the warrant for Reyes' arrest on May 17 after assistant prosecutor Rosanna Montojo recommended the filing of libel charges against the priest.

Bediones was also charged earlier but the charge was dismissed because Montojo said the TV host "acted as merely an introductory narrator."

Upon turning himself in to the court that ordered his arrest, Reyes commented on how "inefficient the justice system is." He said he was surprised when the court staff informed him that his warrant had been mailed to the National Bureau of Investigation and that he would just have to wait for the authorities to arrest him.

"Look at how inefficient our justice system is," he said. "Notices or warrants should be served, not mailed.

"I had to go to court to verify if there was a warrant issued against me," he said. "They expect me to receive it on June 19. How inefficient."

He was in high spirit even when he was handcuffed before being taken to the Quezon City Jail. He even joked that Scintilla Juris fraternity member Raymund Narao, who was detained for seven years for the Dennis Venturina murder case before he was acquitted several months ago, had told him a "welcome party" was waiting for him in jail.

At about noon, Reyes was welcomed by the more than 1,800 inmates of the Quezon City Jail, where he regularly says Mass.

He was first taken to the office of jail warden Supt. Emilio Culang Jr. He surrendered his cell phone before he was led to his cell, called Barangay Roxas. He would share the cell with 20 others, including another priest, rape suspect Fr. Mac Apuya, and five UP students who were convicted for the killing of Venturina.

"I'm not afraid to be jailed, I'm not afraid to languish in jail," Reyes said. "Nobody would harm me here, they are my friends. I'll be a real prison chaplain here, I'll do my apostolate, I'll say Mass, hear confessions."

Reyes would be occupying an upper bunk bed.

"I know I would learn so much in jail," he said. He said is not planning to file counter charges against the Enriles and he would be very willing to be jailed if he loses the case against them.

"I would not pay the Enriles P1 million," he said. "I'm worth more than that."

He vowed to fast and take only water until Wednesday.

Reyes is scheduled to defend his dissertation for his Ph.D. in Anthropology in UP on Friday.

Jail warden Culang said Reyes' will not get special treatment in jail.

Reyes said his decision to surrender was also his way of paying for the sins of his fellow priests who are involved in various sexual scandals.

DENNIS SABANGAN

FATHER Reyes shows his handcuffs as he is taken away on board a jail bus.

90-day extension for Southwoods exit

By Romulo O. Ponte,
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

COMMUTERS from Cavite and Laguna yesterday welcomed the decision of the Toll Regulatory Board to extend by 90 days the use of the Southwoods exit but said the tollgates should be open permanently.

Ray I. Junia, chair of the Movement for Responsible Enterprise (MRE), yesterday said the TRB decision to defer the closure of the Southwoods exit for another 90 days starting May 30 was good news to hundreds of thousands of residents of the affected provinces.

But Junia admitted that his group has yet to receive the official notice of the extension from TRB executive director Jaime Dumlao. He said he learned of the extension from the people manning the tollgates.

He urged both the TRB and the Fil-Estate Realty Corp., owner of the Southwoods exit, to look for other options to resolve their disagreements without affecting the commuters who use the exit to avoid the monstrous traffic on highways going to Carmona in Cavite, and San Pedro and Biñan in Laguna.

"Why should everyone suffer," asked Erdie Malveda, Pacita Complex Homeowners Association president, referring to the disagreement between the PNCC and the TRB."You can just imagine what will happen when tens of thousands more vehicles squeeze into the two-lane highway," he added.The TRB recently announced it would close the Halang interchange, where the Southwoods exit is located, because Fil-Estate had failed to turn over the right-of-way in the construction of the Halang tollgates.

Intersection speakers to make a comeback

By Alcuin Papa

THE METROPOLITAN Manila Development Authority plans to revive the use of loud speakers at busy intersections to warn errant pedestrians and motorists.

MMDA Chair Benjamin Abalos Sr. announced this in a news conference yesterday.

He said traffic enforcers and policemen will also be equipped with cordless microphones so they can move freely at intersections.

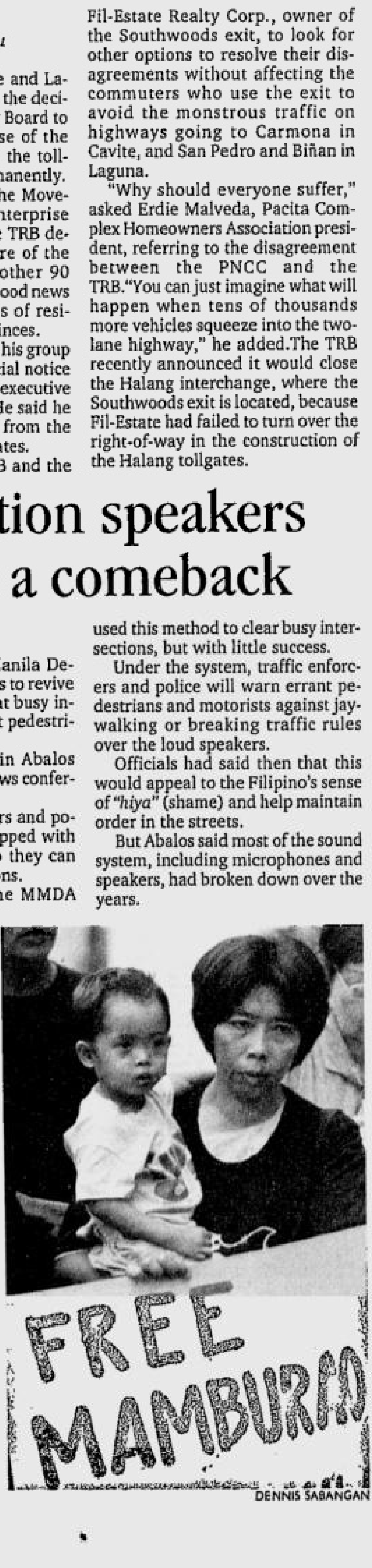
In previous years, the MMDA used this method to clear busy intersections, but with little success.

Under the system, traffic enforcers and police will warn errant pedestrians and motorists against jaywalking or breaking traffic rules over the loud speakers.

Officials had said then that this would appeal to the Filipino's sense of *"hiya"* (shame) and help maintain order in the streets.

But Abalos said most of the sound system, including microphones and speakers, had broken down over the years.

WAITING FOR FATHER
Tessie Hermoso and her son Eduardo, 3, and other members of the families of the "Mamburao 6" – farmers accused of killing the two sons of former congress-man Ricardo Quintos Jr. – appeal for the release of the suspects. The families were joined by members of the Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas, the Church-Peasant Solidarity Council, the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan, Rural Missionaries of the Philippines, and the Promotion of Church People's Response.



DENNIS SABANGAN

Solons ganging up on Chinoy

ON TARGET
Ramon Tulfo

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo has given the assurance that in the peace agreement between the government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), no rebel camp seized by government troops will be returned to the MILF.

But one tends to agree with Cotabato Gov. Manny Piñol who expressed "disturbing concerns" over the recently signed peace pact. Piñol said that in the pact, the government implicitly acknowledges that MILF rebels still control some territories.

For example, Provision No. 3 of the joint communique says: "The AFP/PNP shall convey to the MILF an order of battle containing the names and identities of criminal elements as defined in the implementing guidelines on the security aspect of the GRP-MILF Agreement of Peace of 2001 suspected of hiding in MILF Areas/Communities."

***

Why should the police and military inform the MILF about the identities of people they are hunting down when the rebels are within the sovereignty of the republic!

It's public knowledge the MILF is a coddler of the Abu Sayyaf and the Pentagon kidnap-for-ransom gang. The MILF even had the gall to warn American and Filipino troops searching for Abu Sayyaf terrorists in Basilan not to enter its territory.

In short, the government cannot go after MILF rebels involved in kidnapping, murder, rape and other atrocities without the approval of MILF higher-ups.

***

The term "MILF Areas/Communities" is intriguing. Does it mean the government will return to the rebels the camps that government troops overran two years ago? Right now, the MILF has become nomadic, moving from one place to another, because the rebels have been deprived of permanent settlements.

If the government gives them back a small part of the captured territory, they will soon get back all the areas they have lost.

There's a saying that if you gave a Moro your finger, he would want to get the whole arm.

***

Giving them back the areas they were forced to evacuate would make the rebels regroup, rearm and retrain to fight the government in the future.

The Arroyo administration should never allow this unless it wants to court a restive military.

President Erap gave back to the military its self-respect when he ordered government troops to invade MILF rebel camps. The existence of the MILF camps was an insult to the military. The MILF had thought the military was afraid to fight, when in fact it was being held back by political leaders in Manila.

***

It's understandable for congressmen to hit back at their critics who accuse them of corruption, as in the case of Sen. Panfilo Lacson who wants the pork barrel scrapped. Some congressmen, in retaliation, are proposing to deprive all senators of the pork barrel perk.

But it's beyond comprehension when a congressman raises an old issue against his defeated political enemy and he gets the support of his colleagues in ganging up on the poor fellow.

Zamboanga City businessman Lepeng Wee was trounced by the mother of Rep. Celso Lobregat, when he ran for mayor. He has admitted defeat and promised not to run against the powerful political family.

***

But as Wee is licking his wound, he gets a beating again from Congressman Lobregat, a member of the House committee on good government.

Lobregat's committee on Thursday summoned customs officials to testify on the smuggling into the Zamboanga City port of 39 drums of chemicals allegedly by Wee. Supposedly, those chemicals were the main ingredients in the making of methamphetamine hydrochloride or shabu.

The committee found in previous hearings on the issue, began in July 2001, that Wee didn't have anything to do with the chemicals smuggling. Other findings showed that the chemicals, though toxic, could not be made into shabu. Still, the committee, apparently upon Lobregat's instigation, continues to hound Wee.

***

There are other more important issues that congressmen can look into. But they have to continue with the harassment of Wee because one of their colleagues is asking for their cooperation.

After all, who would help a beleaguered congressman but his own colleagues. You know, the Old Boys Club mentality.

You should be ashamed of yourselves ganging up on a helpless citizen!

***

There's a bit of irony in the calls for the ouster of Felicitas Agoncillo-Reyes as executive director of the Garment and Textile Export Board (GTEB).

The agitators are GTEB officials facing corruption charges before the Office of the Ombudsman. They are Escolastica Segovia, former executive director; Thelma Jover, former deputy-director; Manuel Ang, former division chief; and current deputy executive director Philip JB Panlilio; and section chiefs Lorena del Rosario, Fidelita de Guzman, and Aida Mendoza.

***

The question this group should be addressing is what happened to the vehicles bought by GTEB which were acquired without approval from the Department of Budget and Management and the Office of the President. They allegedly misled the board that such approval was not required.

What happened to their "plan" to personally pay for those vehicles to paper over the irregularity, and get the vehicles for only 20 percent of their real price. But the more important question is, where are the cars since they were paid for?

Those are questions the Office of the Ombudsman wants the group to answer.

Malabon official stabbed dead near police station

By Tina Santos

A MALABON City Hall official was stabbed dead yesterday as he was having breakfast in an eatery a few meters away from the city police headquarters.

Police said Josefino Hequibal, of the Public Order and Safety Office of the Malabon City Hall, died on the way to the Pagamutang Bayan ng Malabon.

Investigation showed that Hequibal was eating breakfast at the back of the city hall on Estrella Street in Tanong when a man identified only as Villar approached Hequibal and stabbed him several times with a fan knife at 9:20 a.m.

Witnesses said Hequibal was not able to fight back.

Police from the nearby headquarters are now trying to determine the motive behind the killing.

American fugitive . . .

From page A23

trict general assignment section.

Pedrozo said Carrier has an outstanding arrest warrant from the US Southern District Court of Florida.

The fugitive was said to have pulled off a multimullion-dollar scam in the United States, Pedrozo said.

He said that on Friday at about 11:30 a.m., the WPD received information that Carrier was hiding out at the Jurassic Billiard Inn on M. H. del Pilar Street in Ermita, Manila.

That same day, Pedrozo and his men, Senior Insp. Raymundo A. Liguden, SPO2 Antonio Cruz, SPO1s Rolando Banez, Alfredo Ruz, Reynaldo Casem, and PO3 Rommel Anicete, joined immigration and Naval Intelligence agents in waiting for Carrier to return to the inn.

The suspect, who allegedly holed out in the provinces, also moved around the different hotels and inns in Manila's tourist belt, Pedrozo said.

He said that, after an eight-hour wait, the lawmen saw Carrier arrive at the inn at about 10:30 p.m.

"(We) waited for sometime and when he was about to go out again, we informed him of the arrest order," he said.

"He resisted for a while, but agents were able to subdue him," Pedrozo added.

He said Carrier had three US passports with him, including one in the name of Carlos Protacio White, but the US government has revoked all of them.

After the arrest, Carrier was taken to the BI Intelligence Division Office, Pedrozo said.

SM CINEMA

SM Dial-A-Movie Tel. 633-9999

NOW SHOWING

SM CITY BACOOR
4173868

1	BENEATH LOCHNESS
2	JASON-X
3	SPIDERMAN
4	STAR WARS
5	STAR WARS
6	AKALA MO
7	LIGAYA, PANTASYA...
8	DEATH TO SMOOCHY

SM CENTERPOINT
7149522 ·7161416

1	AKALAMO
2	JASON X
3	STAR WARS
4	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
5	SPIDERMAN
6	LIGAYA, PANTASYA...
7	STAR WARS
8	STAR WARS
9	VIDEOKE KING
10	BENEATH LOCHNESS

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
9350749

1	JASON-X
2	LIGAYA, PANTASYA...
3	BENEATH LOCHNESS
4	SPIDERMAN
5	STAR WARS
6	AKALA MO
7	STAR WARS
8	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
9	AKALA MO
10	FRUIT IS SWELLING
11	VIDEOKE KING
12	SPIDERMAN

SM CITY MANILA
5239240

1	SPIDERMAN
2	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
3	IN THE BEDROOM
4	STAR WARS
5	BENEATH LOCHNESS
6	STAR WARS
7	LIGAYA, PANTASYA...
8	SPIDERMAN
9	AKALA MO
10	STAR WARS
11	JASON - X
12	FRUIT IS SWELLING

SM MEGAMALL
6331901 • 6329401

1	STAR WARS
2	BENEATH LOCHNESS
3	VIDEOKE KING
4	SPIDERMAN
5	IN THE BEDROOM
6	STAR WARS
7	LIGAYA, PANTASYA...
8	SPIDERMAN
9	AKALA MO
10	STAR WARS
11	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
12	SPIDERMAN

SM CITY NORTH EDSA
9295452

1	IN THE BEDROOM
2	STAR WARS
3	LIGAYA, PANTASYA...
4	AKALA MO
5	BENEATH LOCHNESS
6	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
7	STAR WARS
8	SPIDERMAN
9	CLOSED
10	CLOSED
11	CLOSED
12	CLOSED

SM SOUTHMALL
8066888

1	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
2	BENEATH LOCHNESS
3	STAR WARS
4	IN THE BEDROOM
5	FRUIT IS SWELLING
6	VIDEOKEKING
7	AKALA MO
8	STAR WARS
9	SPIDERMAN
10	LIGAYA, PANTASYA...

SM CITY CEBU
2313876

1	STAR WARS
2	RETURN TO NEVERLAND
3	SEVEN DAYS TO LIVE
4	SPIDERMAN
5	AKALA MO
6	SANA TOTOO NA
7	SPIDERMAN
8	STAR WARS

SM CITY ILOILO
3209422

1	7 DAYS TO LIVE
2	CLOSED
3	SPIDERMAN
4	SNOW DOGS
5	AKALA MO
6	STAR WARS
7	CLOSED
8	K - PAX

SM CITY PAMPANGA
7128015

1	STAR WARS
2	STAR WARS
3	K-PAX
4	SPIDERMAN
5	JASON-X
6	AKALA MO

SM SUPER CTR. SUCAT
8294975

1	SPIDERMAN
2	STAR WARS
3	AKALA MO
4	LIGAYA, PANTASYA...

SM CINEMA GUADALUPE
8820984

1	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
2	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
3	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

SM CINEMA TUTUBAN
2514302

1	STAR WARS
2	LIGAYA, PANTASYA...
3	AKALA MO
4	SPIDERMAN

SM CITY DAVAO
2976998

1	STAR WARS
2	AKALA MO
3	DEVILS MASH
4	SPIDERMAN
5	K-PAX
6	RETURN TO NEVERLAND

SM BICUTAN

1
2
3
4

SOON TO OPEN!
4 NEW
STATE-OF-THE-ART
VISION & SOUND

SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO

1
2
3
4

SOON TO OPEN!
4 NEW
STATE-OF-THE-ART
VISION & SOUND

THE PODIUM
16 ADB Avenue Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City

1	STAR WARS: EPISODE 2
2	IN THE BEDROOM

W/ LATE NIGHT SCREENING ON WEEKENDS 6389781-85

Movies are subject to change without prior notice

For screening times, call 729-7777.
Schedules are subject to change without prior notice.

AYALA CINEMAS NOW SHOWING

G1 GLORIETTA 1	G4 GLORIETTA 4	GB1 GREENBELT 1	GB3 GREENBELT 3	ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER
ALL	DIGITAL		SOUND	
1 SPIDERMAN	1 IN THE BEDROOM	1 SPIDERMAN	SPIDERMAN 10:50/1:20/3:50/6:20/8:50/11:20	1 STAR WARS: EPISODE 2
2 STAR WARS: EPISODE 2	2 STAR WARS: EPISODE 2	2 STAR WARS/ PANIC ROOM	STAR WARS: EPISODE 2 11:40,2:30, 5:20,8:10,11:00	2 STAR WARS: EPISODE 2
3 AKALA MO	3 STAR WARS: EPISODE 2 1:10/2:00/4:50/7:40/10:30	3 HARD BALL	3 SOON TO OPEN	3 SPIDERMAN
4 STAR WARS: EPISODE 2	4 K-PAX	Onstage MARTIN NIEVERA BACK ONSTAGE 9:00 P.M.-May 31/ June 1	4 SOON TO OPEN	4 DEATH SMOOCHY
	5 SPIDERMAN		5 SOON TO OPEN	5 IN THE BEDROOM
	6 STAR WARS: EPISODE 2			
	7 DEATH TO SMOOCHY			

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING
EMAIL: mmta@asia.com

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72

1 (SDS)	STAR WARS
2 (SDDS)	SPIDERMAN
3 (DTS)	STAR WARS
4 GOLD (DTS)	STAR WARS
5 GOLD (DOLBY)	DEATH OF SMOOCHY
6 GOLD (SDDS)	SPIDERMAN
7 GOLD (DOLBY)	IN THE BEDROOM
8	AKALA MO
9	AKALA MO
10	BENEATH LOCHNESS

Pearl Plaza Cinemas
(Parañaque) tel. 853.4486

1	
2	
3 (DTS)	STAR WARS
4	
5	
6 (DTS)	
Golden Pearl THX	

Masagana CINEMA
(Pasay) tel 833.3274

1	AKALA MO
2	STAR WARS
3	LIGAYA, PANTASYA NG BAYAN

starmall Movies
(Shaw Blvd.) tel 724.4986

1	SPIDERMAN
2	AKALA MO
3	BENEATH LOCHNESS
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	STAR WARS
5	LIGAYA, PANTASYA...

METROPOLIS star
tel 850.4285

1	SPIDERMAN
2	LIGAYA, PANTASYA...
3	AKALA MO
4	STAR WARS
5	SANA TOTOO NA
6	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
7	
8	

PREMIERE CINEMA THX
(Makati City) TEL. 751-2010 TO 13

1	STAR WARS

Center Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

1	HARTS WARS
2	SPIDERMAN

FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL, INC
tel 930.9515

1	
2	
3	

Spring
(Libertad, Pasay City) tel 831.7864

1	LIGAYA, PANTASYA NG BAYAN
A	RESERVE

Sunshine
(FTI, Taguig) tel 838.4301 loc. 3376

1	AKALA MO
2	STAR WARS
3	LIGAYA, PANTASYA NG BAYAN
4	

GOTESCO CINEMA

Gotesco City
(Manila) tel 734.8588

1 (DOLBY)	AKALA MO
2	
3	
4	FRUIT IA SWELLING
5	BENEATH LOCHNESS
6	LIGAYA, PANTASYA...
7 (DTS)	STAR WARS
8 (SDDS)	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
9 (DOLBY)	SPIDERMAN

Gotesco Caloocan
tel 362.3508

2	AKALA MO

Gotesco Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 364.3781

1	AKALA MO
2	AKALA MO
3	BENEATH LOCHNESS
4 (SDDS)	STAR WARS
5	LIGAYA, PANTASTA...
6 (DOLBY)	SPIDERMAN
7 (DTS)	STAR WARS
8	FRUIT IS SWELLING
9	VIDEOKE KING

Gotesco Commonwealth
tel 951.0083

1 (DTS)	
2	
3	
4	BENEATH LOCHNESS
5 (SDDS)	SPIDERMAN
6	STAR WARS
7 (DOLBY)	AKALA MO
8	LIGAYA, PANTASTA

Gotesco Ortigas
tel 656.6795

1	LIGAYA, PANTASTA...
2	BENEATH LOCHNESS
3 (DTS)	SPIDERMAN
4	AKALA MO
5 (SDDS)	STAR WARS

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470

1	AKALA MO

Sampaguita
(Cubao) tel 911.7888

1	AKALA MO

Dilson
(Manila) tel 734.7724

Dilson	LIGAYA, PANTASTA...
Lords	LIGAYA, PANTASTA..
Jennet	

MARKETPLACE
Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

1	AKALA MO
2	STAR WARS
3	FRUIT IS SWELLING

Prima
(Pasig) tel 641.1215

3	

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
SUPER CINERAMA
tel 733.4238

1 (DOLBY)	STAR WARS
2	
3	
4	AKALA MO
5	LIGAYA, PANTASTA.

New Divisoria Mall
DIVISORIA CINEMA
tel 244.4619

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	

FRC Cinema
Talaba Bacoor Cavite

1	
2	

Berma
tel 879.2029

1	AKALA MO
2	STAR WARS

CitiMall
(Parañaque) tel 820.7269

1	
2	

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna)
tel (049) 534.2185 / 534.2198

1	SPIDERMAN
2	AKALA MO
3 (DTS)	STAR WARS

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1	SPIDERMAN
2 (DTS)	AKALA MO
3 (DOLBY)	STAR WARS
4	K-PAX

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146

1	SPIDERMAN
2 (DOLBY)	K-PAX
3 (DTS)	STAR WARS
4	AKALA MO

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1	SPIDERMAN
2	AKALA MO
3	SOON TO OPEN
4	SOON TO OPEN

Cinema 2000 MetroTown
(Tarlac) tel(045) 982.1729

1	AKALA MO
2	SPIDERMAN
3 (DOLBY)	DEEP END
4 (DTS)	STAR WARS

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 (SDDS)	STAR WARS
2	FRUIT IS SWELLING
3	SANA TOTOO NA
4 (DTS)	AKALA MO

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 (DOLBY)	STAR WARS
2	K-PAX
3 (DTS)	SPIDERMAN
4	SANA TOTO NA
5	AKAL MO

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883

1	STAR WARS
2	AKALA MO
3	SANA TOTOO NA

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 249-2558

1	STAR WARS
2	AKALA MO
3	SPIDERMAN

Olivarez Tagaytay
tel (046) 413.0311

1	JASON-X
2	PUKYUTAN
3	ROLLER BALL

Morales Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.9736

1	
2	
3	

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808

1 (DTS)	
2 (DTS)	STAR WARS

Fourstep
(Cavite) tel (046) 416.2385

1	

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657

1	SANA TOTOO NA
2	AKALA MO
3	SPIDERMAN

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1	K PAX
2	SPIDERMAN
3	STAR WARS
4	SANA TOTOO NA

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03

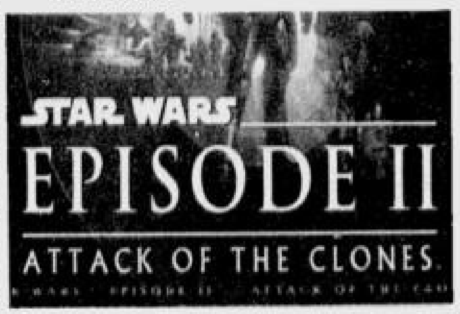
1 (DOLBY EX)	SPIDERMAN
2	AKALA MO
3 (DTS)	STAR WARS
4	K-PAX

*Movies are subject to change without prior notice

ADVANCED SCREENING THX DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS

THX
CMG INTERNATIONAL

PREMIERE CINEMA NOW SHOWING



MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS
@ Robinsons Malls

NOW SHOWING

Galleria
632- 9115- 16
633- 7641 loc. 279

1 THX	STAR WARS 2
2	STAR WARS 2
3	STAR WARS 2
4	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
5	AKALA MO
6	STAR WARS 2
7	SPIDERMAN
8	IN THE BEDROOM
9	SPIDERMAN
10	BENEATH LOCHNESS

Ermita
536 -7809- 12

1	STAR WARS 2
2	SPIDERMAN
3	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
4	BENEATH LOCHNESS
5	AKALA MO
6	IN THE BEDROOM
7	STAR WARS 2

Metro East -
Marcos hway 682- 8193 / 8280

1	SPIDERMAN
2	STAR WARS 2
3	STAR WARS 2
4	BENEATH LOCHNESS
5	SPIDERMAN
6	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
7	STAR WARS 2
8	AKALA MO

Novaliches
935- 3229 - 30

1	STAR WARS 2
2	STAR WARS 2
3	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
4	AKALA MO
5	SPIDERMAN
6	AKALA MO
7	SPIDERMAN
8	DEATH TO SMOOCHY

Imus
471- 8188 / 875- 3838

1	SPIDERMAN
2	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
3	BENEATH LOCHNESS
4	AKALA MO
5	STAR WARS 2
6	STAR WARS 2

Bacolod
441- 0453 / 0459

1	SNOW DOGS
2	STAR WARS 2
3	AKALA MO
4	DEEP END
5	SPIDERMAN
6	DEVIL MAN

Iloilo
336- 8077 - 78

1	STAR WARS 2
2	SNOW DOGS
3	AKALA MO
4	DEEP END
5	SEVEN DAYS TO LIVE
6	SPIDERMAN

Star Mills-
Sn Fernando, Pamp. 875- 1927
961- 5318 / 5270

1	K-PAX
2	STAR WARS 2
3	SPIDERMAN
4	AKALA MO
5	JASON X
6	STAR WARS 2

malabon citisquare-
soon to open.

STAR WARS
EPISODE II

Late Night Screening

STAR WARS
EPISODE II
on
May 24 & 25, 2002
Friday & Saturday -
11:00 p.m. @
Robinsons
Movieworld
Galleria

how-2-reach-us:
email: htc@netasia-mnl.net
http://www.robinsonsmovieworld.com
call-a-movie 536- 7812

MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

Films, music, fashion in 'French Spring'

DOLLYWOOD

Dolly Anne Carvajal

THE FRENCH Embassy, in cooperation with the Alliance Francaise de Manille and the Association Francaise d'Action Artistique and with the support of the French and Filipino business communities, has introduced a new season in the cultural calendar of the Philippines.

"French Spring in Manila," in its first three years, gave the Filipinos not merely a glimpse of French culture but an extensive program of some of the best contemporary artistic creations in France.

In its fourth year, French Spring in Manila showcases France's prolific artistry. Pianists, creative visual artists, film directors, and even a disc jockey will exhibit French excellence in different forms of expression.

French Spring in Manila 2002 will be opened formally by the new French ambassador to the Philippines, Madame *Renee* **Veyret**, in a gala. The opening cocktails will be followed by a one-night duo piano concert by **Marie-Josephe Jude** and **Emmanuel Strosser** (Mandarin Oriental Grand Ballroom, May 28, by invitation only). A lively repertoire of Ducas, Debussy, Chabrier and Brahms will keep the privileged guests entertained.

Next on the agenda is an exposition of photographs by **Philippe Laleu** displaying his journey through modern cities.

The festival has commissioned theater director **Anton Juan** to stage a multi-disciplinary piece inspired by the works, poetry and the life of **Victor Hugo** in celebration of the bicentennial of the birth of France's literary giant. (CCP Little Theater, June 4, 8 p.m.)

The highlight of it all is the French Film Festival, which has become an annual rendezvous of Mani-la's movie aficionados in search of a different kind of cinema. While it is proud to present some of the most awarded films of the past year, "art films" like the opening feature, "Amelie from Montmartre," it will show more conservative ones that portray the common aspects of everyday life in France. The festival will run for two weeks at the Shangri-La Plaza Mall Cinema 2, June 7-23. (***To be continued***)

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

ARANETA CENTER THEATERS 911-3101	
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-1	AKALA MO
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-2	BENEATH LOCHNESS
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-3 (DDS)	STAR WARS
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS)	SPIDERMAN
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	STAR WARS
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	FRUIT IS SWELLING
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7 (DOLBY)	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
FARMERS PLAZA-1 (DOLBY)	SPIDERMAN
FARMERS PLAZA-2 (DOLBY)	STAR WARS
FIESTA CARNIVAL	
NEW FRONTIER	
MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	KAULAYAW / SNAKE CHARMER
ODEON	STAR WARS
ODEON-2	SANA TOTOO NA
ROBEN	SANA TOTOO NA
TANDEM-1	ITLOG
TANDEM-2	IKA-7 GLORYA
TIMES	OCEAN 11 / ALI
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	CLOSED
ACT-4	CLOSED
CORONET-2	ORIGINAL SIN
QUEZON-1	SANA TOTOO NA
REMAR	AKALA MO
REMAR-2	STAR WARS
NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	SANA TOTOO NA
B	KAPIRASONG GUBAT . . .
C	
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	
CINEMA-2	STAR WARS: EPISODE 2
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	SANA TOTOO NA
CINEMA-2	BUKANG BIBIG
CINEMA-3	K-PAX
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	STAR WARS
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	SPIDERMAN
CINEMA-6	JASON-X
CINEMA-7	VIDEOKE KING
CINEMA-8	SCORPION KING
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	STAR WARS
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	STAR WARS
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	STAR WARS
CINEMA-12	SPIDERMAN
CINEMA-14	SPIDERMAN
CINEMA-15	SPIDERMAN
LORES	
CINEMA-2	CLOSED
CINEMA-3	CLOSED
POWER PLANT CINEMA	
CINEMA-1	SPIDERMAN
CINEMA-2	IN THE BEDROOM
CINEMA-3	STAR WARS: EPISODE 2
CINEMA-4	STAR WARS: EPISODE 2
CINEMA-5	DEATH TO SMOOCHY
CINEMA-6	STAR WARS: EPISODE 2
UNIWIDE METROMALL	
(LAS PINAS)	
CINEMA-1	
CINEMA-2	
CINEMA-4	
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARANAQUE)	
CINEMA-1	ALIPIN NG TUKSO
CINEMA-2	THE OTHER SIDE OF LOVE
CINEMA-4	ALAMID

POWER PLANT
CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

SPIDERMAN - GP 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10	IN THE BEDROOM-R18 1:25, 4:05, 6:45, 9:30	STAR WARS - GP 11:50, 2:40, 5:30, 8:20
STAR WARS - GP 12:40, 3:30, 6:20, 9:10	DEATH TO SMOOCHY-P13 12:05, 2:25, 4:45, 7:05, 9:30	STAR WARS - GP 1:30, 4:20, 7:10,10:00

MATINEE P80.00 - FREE SEATING - SCREENINGS BEFORE 5 PM - MON. TO FRI.

From the star of
SILENCE OF THE LAMBS
And the Director of SEVEN . . . . . .
SHOCKING THRILLER OPENS TOMORROW!
MTRCB RATING ▶ R Restricted | Strictly for ADULTS
No one below 18 years may be admitted

"TWO THUMBS UP"
EBERT & ROEPER
"A WHITE-KNUCKLE THRILLER OF SCARES AND SHOCKS!"
"AN INGENIOUS AND ENTERTAINING THRILLER"
"'PANIC ROOM' WILL MAKE YOU JUMP OUT OF YOUR SEAT"
JODIE FOSTER
PANIC ROOM
SonyPictures.com

Distributed by COLUMBIA PICTURES

NOW SHOWING
MTRCB RATING ▶ G General Patronage | ALL AGES ADMITTED

STAR WARS
EPISODE II
ATTACK OF THE CLONES
EWAN McGREGOR NATALIE PORTMAN HAYDEN CHRISTENSEN
IAN McDIARMID SAMUEL L. JACKSON CHRISTOPHER LEE
JOHN WILLIAMS RICK McCALLUM
GEORGE LUCAS JONATHAN HALES
GEORGE LUCAS
THX

the all-digital-sound
AYALA CINEMAS
GLORIETTA 1 &4/GREENBELT 1 & 3
ALABANG TOWN CENTER
NOW SHOWING!
STAR WARS
EPISODE II
ATTACK OF THE CLONES
Ewan McGregor Natalie Portman Hayden Christensen
MTRCB Rating: General Patronage
Special Thanks To:
Vortex 100 Preview seventeen COSMOPOLITAN Good Housekeeping
LUCASFILM THX 20th Century Fox

STAR WARS
EPISODE II
ATTACK OF THE CLONES

MORE POWER MORE MOVIES

TIMEZONE
POWERCARD

BUY OR RELOAD A TIMEZONE POWERCARD AND GET 2 FREE G1 MOVIE TICKETS INSTANTLY!
The New G1 Cinemas
AYALA CINEMAS
All digital sound, more food choices, more luxurious seats, and a fully-renovated lobby & interior. All at one great price. All at the new G1 cinemas.
Promo period is from April11 to May 31, 2002
Per DTI NCR Permit No. AI-221 Series of 2002

THEATRE MALL
GREENHILLS
a landmark renovated!
1 STAR WARS: Episode 2
11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00
GP
2 STAR WARS: Episode 2
12:00, 2:45, 5:30, 8:16, 11:00
GP
All Reserved Seating: P120.00
TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

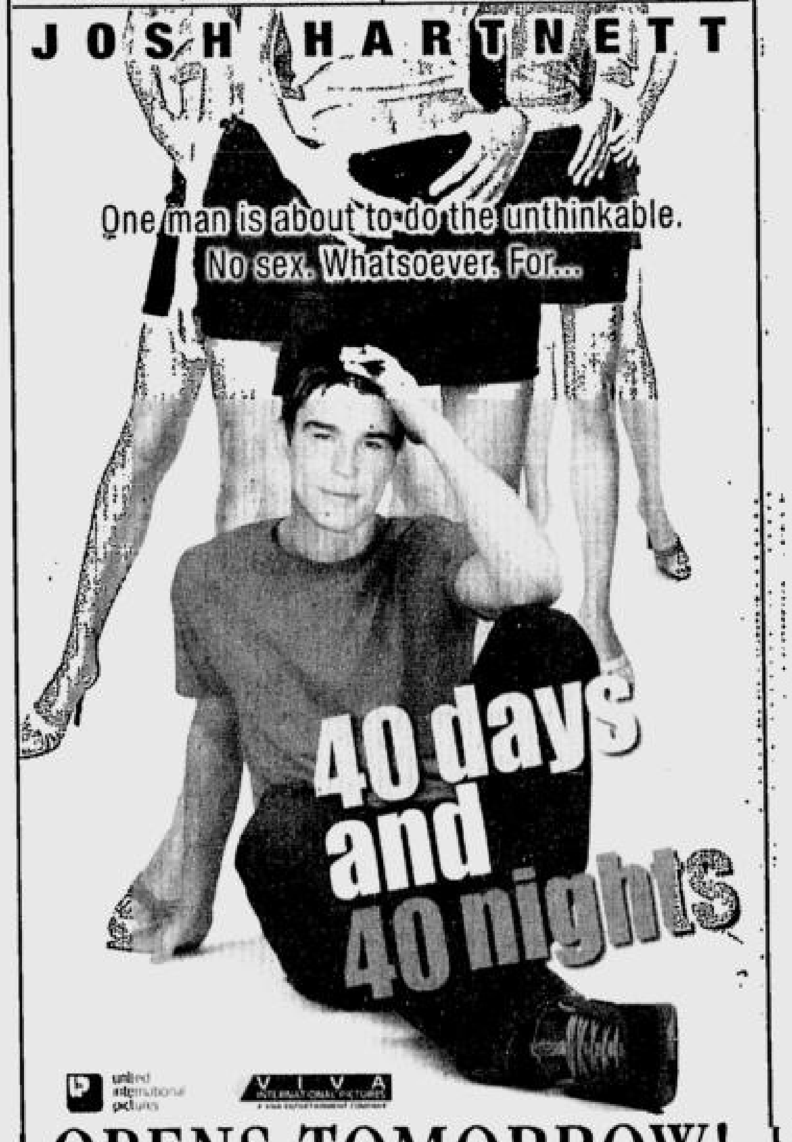
MUSIC MUSEUM
MAY 31, 2002 RETROSPECT 9:00 PM

MTRCB RATING ▶ G General Patronage | ALL AGES ADMITTED

Prince Charming na-in-love sa Ladyguard!
AKALA MO... SUNTOK SA BUWAN?
JUDY ANN SANTOS
DINGDONG DANTES
Akala Mo...
ELIZABETH OROPESA DENNIS PADILLA CANDY PANGILINAN & ANNE CURTIS
SA PAG-IBIG, WALANG IMPOSIBLE

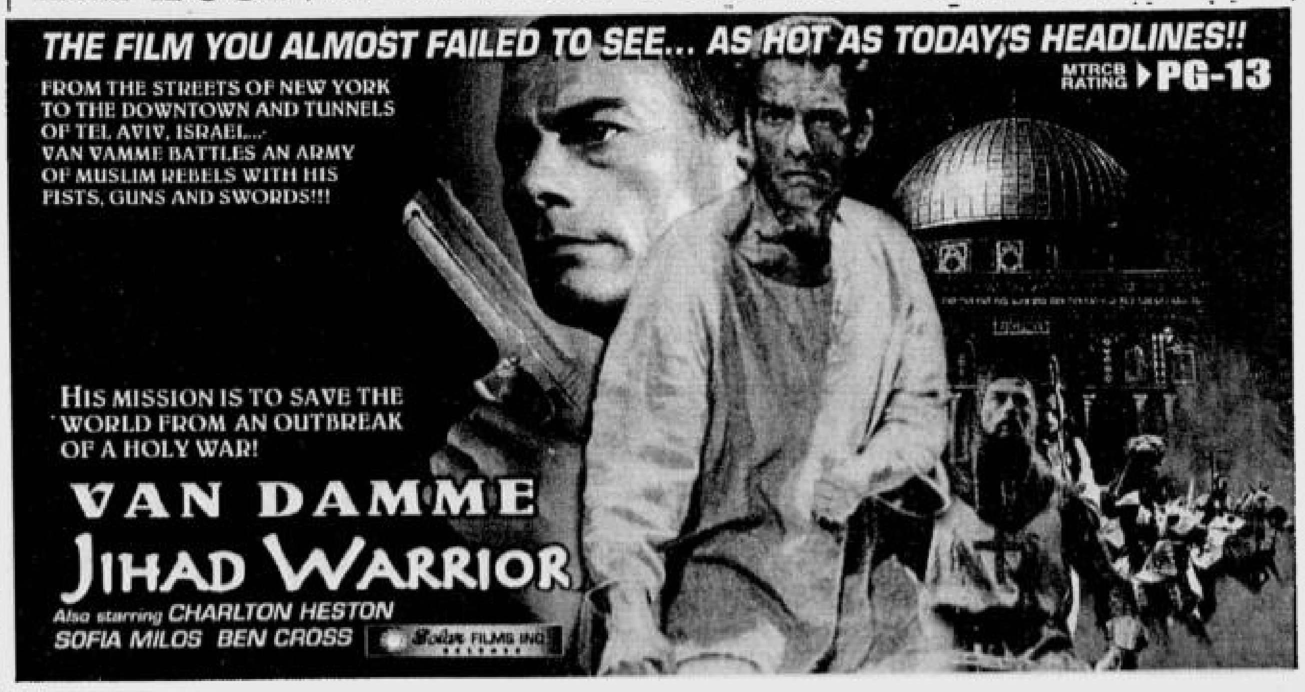
NOW SHOWING NATIONWIDE

MTRCB RATING ▶ R RESTRICTED | Strictly for ADULTS
No one below 18 yrs. may be admitted.


JOSH HARTNETT
One man is about to do the unthinkable.
No sex. Whatsoever. For...
40 days and 40 nights
united international pictures
VIVA INTERNATIONAL PICTURES

OPENS TOMORROW!

EXPLOSIVE ACTION STARTS TOMORROW!


THE FILM YOU ALMOST FAILED TO SEE... AS HOT AS TODAY'S HEADLINES!!
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13
FROM THE STREETS OF NEW YORK TO THE DOWNTOWN AND TUNNELS OF TEL AVIV, ISRAEL... VAN VAMME BATTLES AN ARMY OF MUSLIM REBELS WITH HIS FISTS, GUNS AND SWORDS!!!
HIS MISSION IS TO SAVE THE WORLD FROM AN OUTBREAK OF A HOLY WAR!
VAN DAMME
JIHAD WARRIOR
Also starring CHARLTON HESTON SOFIA MILOS BEN CROSS
Solar FILMS INC

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor **Louie C. Camino**

Series and season finales click with viewers

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

SINCE local TV series run the whole year through, we may not really appreciate the excitement that attends the season finales of television shows in the States.

The special finale episodes are important because US TV series take a season break for some weeks, so viewers have to be given a climactic "high" at the end of each year's telecasts, so that they'll look forward to next year's shows.

Thus, a lot of time, expense and thought was invested in the season finale of the hit sitcom "Friends," as it recently concluded its eighth year on the tube.

In the special episode, Rachel (**Jennifer Aniston**) gave birth to a baby girl, as the child's father, Ross (**David Schwimmer**) tried to help her in the delivery room.

In addition, Rachel accepted an "accidental" marriage proposal from Joey (**Matt Leblanc**). How did the "accident" happen? Ross had an engagement ring for Rachel, but it fell out of his pocket; Joey knelt down to pick it up, and Rachel thought that he was proposing to her, so—!

Not to worry, this and other complications will be ironed out when the series comes back this fall for its ninth *and* final season.

Speaking of final seasons, **Rosie O'Donnell** is about to terminate her popular daytime talk show after six profitable years, to focus on raising a family with her female life partner. For each of those years, she has won a Daytime Emmy as best talk show host.

What would make a popular TV personality put an end to a show that was making so much money for her, and winning her acclaim and honors, as well?

Jerry Seinfeld tried to answer that same question when he concluded his even more popular sitcom years ago, but very few people understood him, so O'Donnell is not even going to try.

And finally, last week, "ER" concluded its eighth season on TV with an episode that, for the first time, didn't include a performance by series regular **Anthony Edwards**, who has decided to stop acting in the show, leaving **Noah Wylie** as the only original cast member left in the hit series.

'Face to Face' concerts

CHANNEL [V] Int'l. presents a new Mandarin pop concert series, "Face to Face," starting this month in Guangzhou. There will be 24 concerts and interviews featuring top Chinese pop artists.

The series will be aired every Sunday at 6:30 p.m. starting June 2. Mainland China's Golden Apple, **Zhang Meng Meng** and **Gu Feng** are confirmed guests, as well as Hong Kong's **Andy Hui** and Taiwan's **Fish Leong**.

'The Music Room'

EVERY Friday since April 12, CNN International has been showcasing some of the world's best musical talent, from unknowns to Grammy winners, on "The Music Room." They perform live and talk about the inspiration behind their songs.

The show started with two hot R&B artists, **Alicia Keys** and **Nelly Furtado**, and visited the New York home of **Rob Thomas** of Matchbox 20.

The second episode showcased **Natalie Imbruglia** and **Fat Boy Slim**.

'The Sum of All Our Fears'

HARRISON Ford Clancy hero, Jack Ryan, on the big screen. Now, in "The Sum of All Our Fears," turn to play the hero at an early time in his career, when he's just joined the CIA.

It isn't easy following in Ford's stellar footsteps, but Affleck gives it everything he's got. Clancy himself approves of the actor's performance, noting that "he brings a new dimension to the role."

Affect himself confides that, before accepting the role, he got in touch with both Baldwin and Ford. Baldwin gave him a few pointers, and Ford was similarly supportive.

"The Sum of All Our Fears" is a realistic view of what could happen if weapons of mass destruction fell into the wrong hands. It shows how quickly fear can escalate into paranoia.

Also starring is **Morgan Freeman** as CIA Director William Cabot. **James Cromwell** is cast as the US president, and **Liev Shreiber** is the CIA operative assigned by Cabot to take Ryan into the field. A relative newcomer, **Bridget Moynahan**, is cast as Cathy Mulles, Ryan's girlfriend, and should be noticed in this film.

CALMA

Media forum

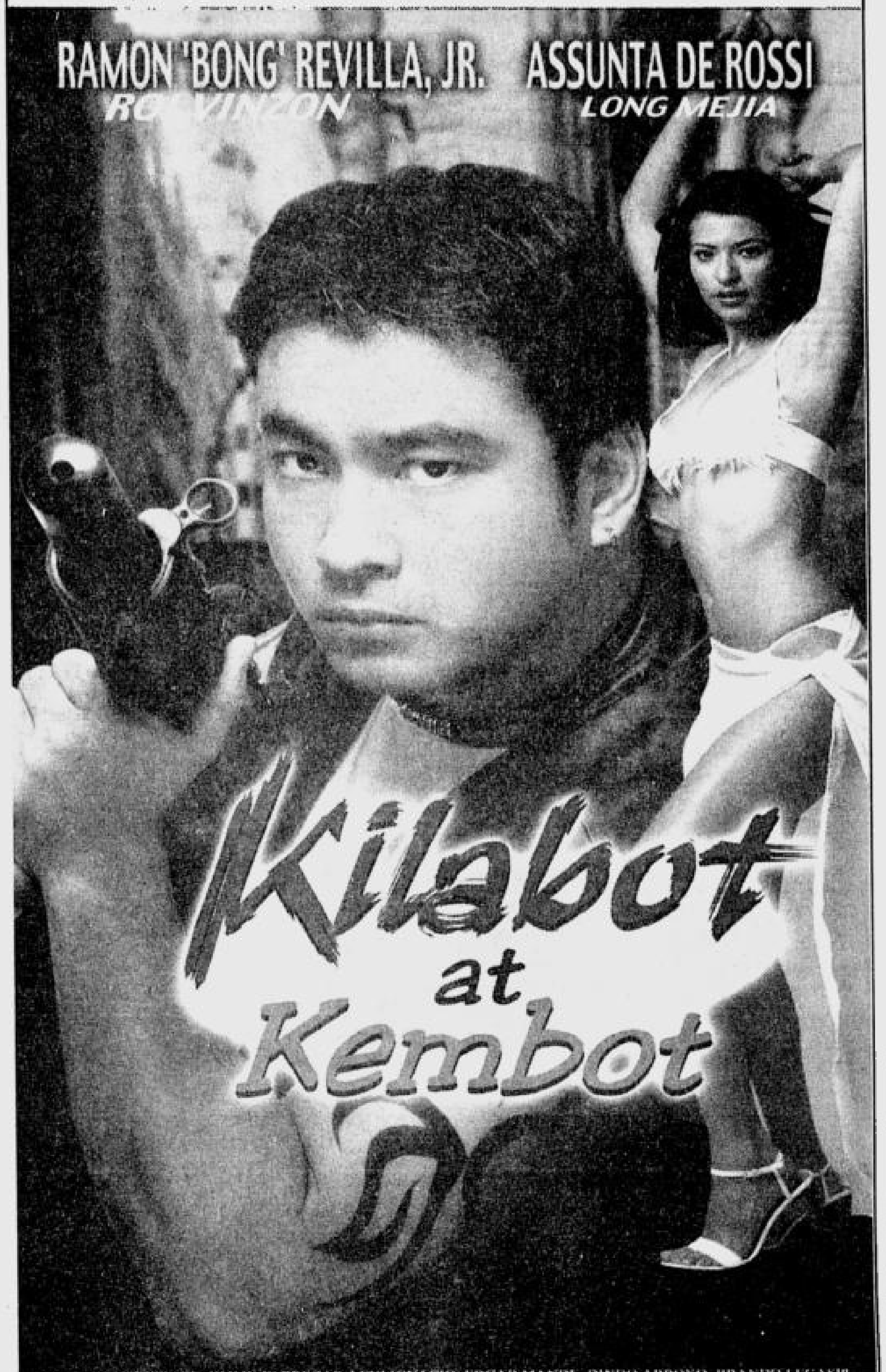
CHUMS Productions will launch its initial media forum, "Grand Dialogue," at 9:30 a.m. tomorrow, May 29, at the Beck's Bar of Grand Boulevard Hotel.

Hosted by radio and TV personalities—former Councilor Cherry Sarmiento and Anna Lozada Calma, the forum will tackle current issues and events.

Invited guests are Sens. Juan Flavier, Aquilino Pimentel, Franklin Drilon, Panfilo Lacson, Gringo Honasan, Presidential adviser for agricultural modernization Angelito Sarmiento, Manila 2nd District Rep. Jaime Lopez and Valenzuela 1st District Rep. Sherwin Gatchalian.

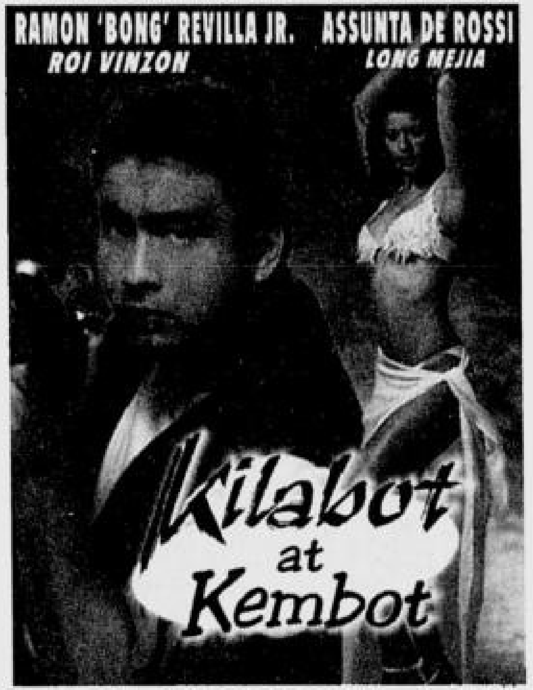
For inquiries, call the marketing communications department at 526-8588, local 7226.

OPENS TOMORROW NATIONWIDE
Advance Sceening today in all Robinsons Cinemas
and 7:30 and 9:30 pm in all Sm Cinemas



Starring DICK ISRAEL JIMMY FABREGAS LEVI IGNACIO EDGAR MANDE DINDO ARROYO BRANDO LEGASPI
EDWIN REYES TOM OLIVAR FRED MORO RONNIE OLIVAR BUDDY PALAD JOSIE TAGLE
Introducing BRYAN REVILLA Special Participation TIFFANY GONZALES
Directed by AUGUSTO 'OGIE' SALVADOR
IMUS PRODUCTIONS, INC. RELEASED BY: GMA

SEE IT FIRST!
SM CINEMA
SNEAK PREVIEW
May 28, 2002 • Starts 7:00-8:00 pm



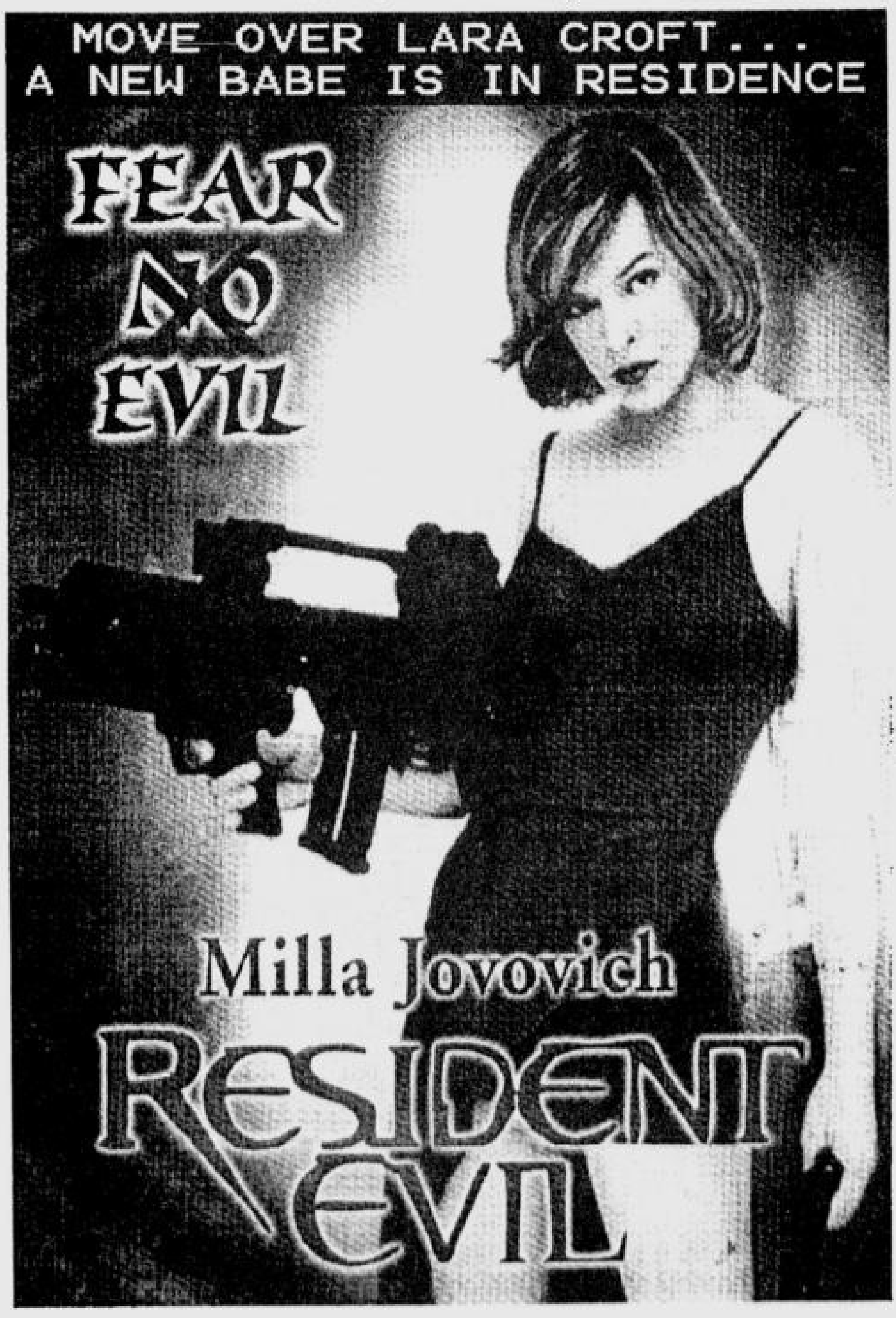
MTRCB RATING: R18
Tickets available at:
SM MEGAMALL • NORTH EDSA • SOUTHMALL • MANILA • SUCAT
FAIRVIEW • CENTERPOINT • BACOOR • PAMPANGA • TUTUBAN
SM Dial-a-Movie • 633-9999
Meet & Greet Kilabot at Kembot Cast at SM Megamall, SM Bacoor Cinema Lobby

See it first!
SM CINEMA
ADVANCE SCREENING

FEAR NO EVIL
Milla Jovovich
RESIDENT EVIL

MTRCB RATING: PG13
Invitational DWTM Screening on
May 28, 2002 • 7:30 pm
SM Megamall Cinema 3
Regular showing on May 29 at the SM CINEMAS.

HOME 97.9 Manila RADIO
ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD
Invite you
to the Advance Screening of



ROBINSON'S MOVIE WORLD, ROBINSON'S GALLERIA * MAY 28 * 7:30 PM
OPENS MAY 29 AT THEATERS EVERYWHERE
REFORMULATED Dimetapp
imarflex
Incremin

Dati

~~₱8.00/min~~

(Peak rate from 7:00 a.m. to 9:59 p.m.)

Ngayon

₱6.50/min.

na lang!

ALL DAY, ALL NIGHT RATE

SAVE ₱1.50**

ALL OUT pa sa value-added services!

- Free text* to all local GSM networks
- The more cards you load, the more free text you get!
- Ang daming zed services, like news, logos, ringtones, games and so much more!
- 32K zed plus SIM lets you personalize your cellphone with the services na trip mo!
- 200-entry phone book memory

KAYA BA NG IBA 'TO?

TALK 'N TEXT GSM with zed™

** Number of free text is based on card value loaded.*

*** Save P1.50 off the previous peak rate of P8.00/min.*

P6.50/min. rate is valid for all local and cell-to-cell calls from May 27–June 10, 2002.

Yan ang galing without overspending!

For Inquiries, please call (02)888-1111 (GMA), 1800-888-1111(Vis/Min) or *888 from your Talk 'N Text cellphone.

POWERED BY THE SMART NETWORK

TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2002 PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BUSINESS

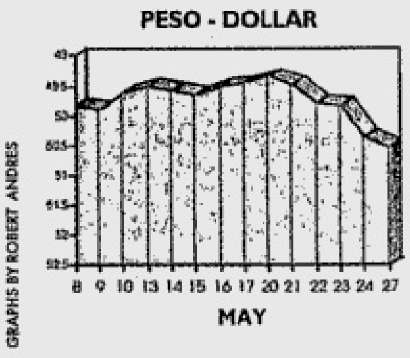
Editor **Raul O. Marcelo** ◎ Assistant Editor **Corrie S. Narisma**

DELL™
Optiplex GX400
Designed for Where Computing is Going
Call us today to speak with an expert about the desktop that's right for you.
INTEGRATED COMPUTER SYSTEMS, INC. (ICS)
Tel. 727-3801 Website: www.ics.com.ph

91-day T-bill rate inches up to 4.569%

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES



PESO-DOLLAR RATE

₱ 50.35 = $ 1
As of 5 p.m., May 27, 2002

¥ 124.82 = $ 1
As of 5 p.m., May 27, 2002

GOLD: $320.80/321.30
per ounce Hong Kong.
May 27, 2002

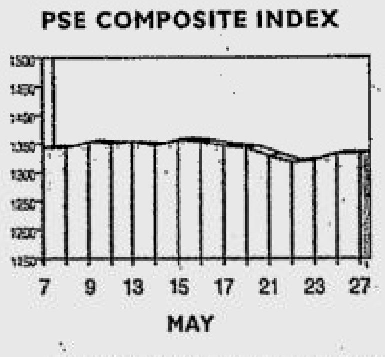
STOCK MARKET

Shares end lower

STOCKS edged slightly lower in extremely thin trade yesterday, as investors shied away from the market, pessimistic over prospects for a corporate rebound in the near term, traders said.

"The overall sentiment is that of caution, the first quarter earnings of a number of leading companies have sort of put some pessimism on the part of foreign fund

SHARES/ B2



(See stock market report on Page B2)

By Clarissa S. Batino

LOCAL banks yesterday pushed the benchmark 91-day treasury bill yield higher by 18.8 basis points to 4.569 percent on expectations that the government would have to raise more funds to finance a growing deficit this year.

A trader from a foreign bank said that despite the government's insistence that it would meet the P130-billion deficit target this year after falling to rein in the gap during the first quarter, all indications point to a likely slippage.'

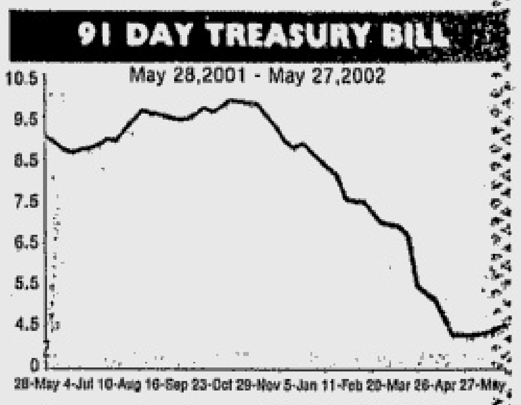
"There is a problem with confidence," another trader noted.

The rates of the 182- and 364-day treasuries went up by 32.8 basis points and 57.1 basis points to 5.344 percent and 5.707 percent in yesterday's auction, which was characterized by a lack of interest among the bidders.

Out of the P9 billion in total tenders, bids totaled only P6.632 billion as all three tenors were undersubscribed. The government rejected "speculative and unreasonable bids" and only awarded P5.305 billion.

"It was a choice between a full rejection or accepting the reasonable ones which we did,"

91-DAY/ B3



Ford eyes RP as hub for luxury vehicles

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

THE WORLD'S No: 2 automaker Ford Motor Co. is keen on making the Philippines a production hub for luxury vehicles in Asia despite the country's marginal sales of high-priced sedans and sport utility vehicles.

A source said Ford made this disclosure during a meeting last month between government officials and representatives of the Automotive Trade Policy Council, a US lobby group representing the interests of Ford, General Motors and Daimler Chrysler.

The source said Ford reckoned that there was a "strong probability" that the Philippines could be a production hub for luxury vehicles mainly geared for export to Asia.

Ford currently produces Ford Lynx and Ranger pickup trucks in its Laguna plant. The luxury brands under its wings are Volvo, Jaguar, Aston Martin, Mercury, Lincoln and Land Rover.

The source said that Thailand, which is considered as the Detroit of Asia for its hefty production of pickup trucks, has been moving to become a manufacturing center for luxury vehicles. But high-end automakers have so far not expressed any interest in Thailand as a production hub largely due to its domestic problems.

Ford is currently rationalizing its operations in the region as it prepares for the imminent liberalization of trade. It has obtained approval for its $1.2-billion production sharing agreement between its subsidiaries in the Philippines and Thailand under the Asean Industrial Cooperation (Aico) scheme.

Under the project, the American carmaker would produce Ford Laser sedan and Escape sport utility vehicle in the Philippines, which would be swapped with Ford Ranger pickup trucks from Thailand. Ford Philippines is expected to ship out 65,000 vehicles to Thailand and Indonesia over the next five years.

Ford would benefit from preferred duties of zero to 5 percent under Aico as well as achieve economies of scale and plant specialization compared to the prevailing duties of 20 percent and 15 percent on completely built-up units in the Philippines and Thailand, respectively.

Ford's Aico project is expected to boost the Philippines' automotive exports and make it more competitive with its neighbors in the automotive industry ahead of the Asean Free Trade Area in 2003 when duties on cars and commercial vehicles are scheduled to go down to between zero and 5 percent. The major automotive exporters in the region are Thailand (141,436 units), Indonesia (47,001 units), and Malaysia (12,600 units).

BVLGARI

BVLGARI
AUTOMATIC
BVLGARI BVLGARI

The Bvlgari-Bvlgari Chrono watch

Manila - 6750 Ayala Center - Makati   Rustan's Department Store
www.bulgari.com

LOOKING FOR A LARGE, STABLE AND STRONG INSURANCE COMPANY TO TRUST?
Just call Nippon Life – the world's largest life insurance company.*
Call: 763-2151 (ext. 412)
*Fortune Magazine, July 2001
Nippon Life Philippines
Nothing can be more secure
www.nipponlife-phil.com.ph

BUSINESS

Editor Raul O. Marcelo ◉ Assistant Editor Corrie S. Narisma

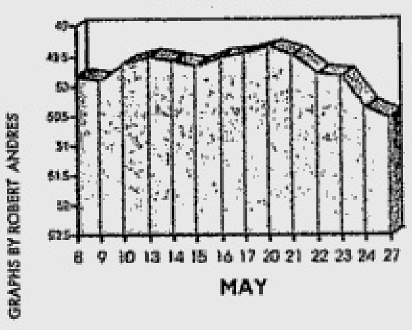
DELL™
Optiplex GX400
Designed for Where Computing is Going
Call us today to speak with an expert about the desktop that's right for you.
INTEGRATED COMPUTER SYSTEMS, INC. (ICS)
Tel. 727-3801 Website: www.ics.com.ph

91-day T-bill rate inches up to 4.569%

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES

PESO - DOLLAR



PESO-DOLLAR RATE

₱ 50.35 = $ 1

As of 5 p.m., May 27, 2002

¥ 124.82 = $ 1

As of 5 p.m., May 27, 2002

GOLD: $320.80/321.30

per ounce Hong Kong, May 27, 2002

STOCK MARKET

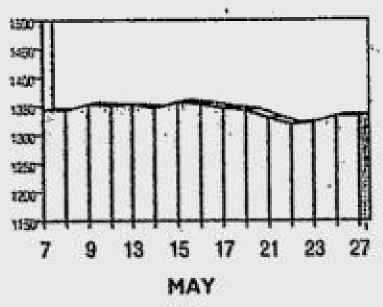
Shares end lower

STOCKS edged slightly lower in extremely thin trade yesterday, as investors shied away from the market, pessimistic over prospects for a corporate rebound in the near term, traders said.

"The overall sentiment is that of caution, the first quarter earnings of a number of leading companies have sort of put some pessimism on the part of foreign fund

SHARES/ B2

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX



(See stock market report on Page B2)

By Clarissa S. Batino

LOCAL banks yesterday pushed the benchmark 91-day treasury bill yield higher by 18.8 basis points to 4.569 percent on expectations that the government would have to raise more funds to finance a growing deficit this year.

A trader from a foreign bank said that despite the government's insistence that it would meet the P130-billion deficit target this year after failing to rein in the gap during the first quarter, all indications point to a likely slippage.

"There is a problem with confidence," another trader noted.

The rates of the 182- and 364-day treasuries went up by 32.8 basis points and 57.1 basis points to 5.344 percent and 5.707 percent in yesterday's auction, which was characterized by a lack of interest among the bidders.

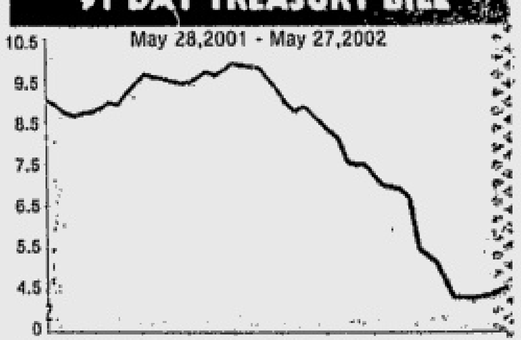
Out of the P9 billion in total tenders, bids totaled only P6.632 billion as all three tenors were undersubscribed. The government rejected "speculative and unreasonable bids" and only awarded P5.305 billion.

"It was a choice between a full rejection or accepting the reasonable ones which we did,"

91-DAY/ B3

91 DAY TREASURY BILL

May 28,2001 - May 27,2002



Ford eyes RP as hub for luxury vehicles

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

THE WORLD'S No. 2 automaker Ford Motor Co. is keen on making the Philippines a production hub for luxury vehicles in Asia despite the country's marginal sales of high-priced sedans and sport utility vehicles.

A source said Ford made this disclosure during a meeting last month between government officials and representatives of the Automotive Trade Policy Council, a US lobby group representing the interests of Ford, General Motors and Daimler Chrysler.

The source said Ford reckoned that there was a "strong probability" that the Philippines could be a production hub for luxury vehicles mainly geared for export to Asia.

Ford currently produces Ford Lynx and Ranger pickup trucks in its Laguna plant. The luxury brands under its wings are Volvo, Jaguar, Aston Martin, Mercury, Lincoln and Land Rover.

The source said that Thailand, which is considered as the Detroit of Asia for its hefty production of pickup trucks, has been moving to become a manufacturing center for luxury vehicles. But high-end automakers have so far not expressed any interest in Thailand as a production hub largely due to its domestic problems.

Ford is currently rationalizing its operations in the region as it prepares for the imminent liberalization of trade. It has obtained approval for its $1.2-billion production sharing agreement between its subsidiaries in the Philippines and Thailand under the Asean Industrial Cooperation (Aico) scheme.

Under the project, the American carmaker would produce Ford Laser sedan and Escape sport utility vehicle in the Philippines, which would be swapped with Ford Ranger pickup trucks from Thailand. Ford Philippines is expected to ship out 65,000 vehicles to Thailand and Indonesia over the next five years.

Ford would benefit from preferred duties of zero to 5 percent under Aico as well as achieve economies of scale and plant specialization compared to the prevailing duties of 20 percent and 15 percent on completely built-up units in the Philippines and Thailand, respectively.

Ford's Aico project is expected to boost the Philippines' automotive exports and make it more competitive with its neighbors in the automotive industry ahead of the Asean Free Trade Area in 2003 when duties on cars and commercial vehicles are scheduled to go down to between zero and 5 percent. The major automotive exporters in the region are Thailand (141,436 units), Indonesia (47,001 units), and Malaysia (12,600 units).

BVLGARI

BVLGARI
BVLGARI
AUTOMATIC

The Bvlgari-Bvlgari Chrono watch

Manila - 6750 Ayala Center - Makati   Rustan's Department Store

www.bulgari.com

LOOKING FOR A LARGE, STABLE AND STRONG INSURANCE COMPANY TO TRUST?

Just call Nippon Life – the world's largest life insurance company.*

Call: 753-2151 (ext. 412)

*Fortune Magazine, July 2001

Nippon Life Philippines

Nothing can be more secure

www.nipponlife-phil.com.ph

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Not by grid alone

BREAKTIME

Conrado R. Banal III

LET us write our own reform law for the electric power industry. By "us" I don't mean people who are allergic to anything that calls for spending money.

I refer to all Meralco customers, who use up to some 70 percent of the total electricity in the country and who are, therefore, only allergic to monthly electricity bills.

That's according to my limited understanding of today's burning issues. These are—"What is the meaning of life?" and "Why the hell do we pay too much for electricity?"

I say we really have to make our own reform law if we really want to save a priceless national heritage. And that is, the world's funniest subsidy system!

Imagine, some misinformed mistaken miscreants insist on correcting the subsidy system that, through the years, we have painstakingly put up with in the power sector.

It is our very own system. It has been around since the time of Marcos. What awful reason do they have to abolish it? Only because—would you believe?—it's unfair.

* * *

UNDER the subsidy system, Meralco customers pay more than all the others in the entire known universe. It's only about 40 centavos per kilowatt-hour more.

It was created during the time of Marcos. The dictator ordered the creation of the subsidy system through the National Power Corp. apparently to please himself.

That state-owned Napocor was, still is and will soon no longer be the country's monopoly in power generation. In a way, we just had enough of it!

Ours are the second highest electricity rates in the whole of Asia. For this, whatever that "study" commissioned by whomever says, Napocor is to blame.

The rates that Napocor charges Meralco under the subsidy system are always—as in "automatic"—higher than Napocor's actual cost for producing the electricity.

It's Napocor's way of lowering its charges for other electricity distributors in the rest of the country. Guess who pays for such a terrific subsidy system!

* * *

JUST because it is unfair to us, the Meralco customers, is not reason enough, however, for our lawmakers to abolish it. The move is contained in the Epira.

That's the Electric Power Industry Reform Act. Notice that Congress passed the law last year to reform the sector mainly by erasing Napocor from the face of the earth.

The goal of the program is clear. We will be better off without Napocor. What does it tell us about Napocor's subsidy? Simple: The subsidy is stupid.

The Epira says that, in three years, we must do away with any form of subsidy in the electric power sector. I'm afraid the Epira is destroying our identity as a people.

We are known all over the world for crazy subsidies. To Meralco customers, the subsidy is a matter of pride. They want to be known as the milking cow of Napocor.

If the Epira takes away the subsidy, it's a big blow to their ego as customers. They can no longer claim they are rich enough to subsidize the whole country.

* * *

BUT to me, there's more to the subsidy removal than just its being a towering insult to the social standing of Meralco customers. (Excuse me. *Ano kami*? Poor?)

Actually, to me, the subsidy system has an economic purpose. The thinking is that if power is cheap in other parts of the country, industries will go outside the Meralco area.

That area uses some 70 percent of the total electricity generated in the country mainly because the very same area accounts for roughly half of the entire economy.

What's actually happening is that industries still do not go to other parts of the country despite the lower power rates than those in the Meralco area.

Our forgetful government did not remember to put up infrastructure to those parts. Industries may save on power, but they will have to spend more on other things.

Industries did not see the brilliance of the subsidy. They insisted on staying away from backward areas. Moral of the story: Business does not live by electric grids alone.

* * *

DUE to the subsidy, industries in the Meralco area must bear the higher cost of power. As I said, the area only accounts for half of the entire economy.

In effect, the subsidy burdened half of the country's businesses. Now do you still wonder why our manufacturing sector is not really that competitive?

That's why under the Epira, the subsidy is destined for the wastebasket within the next three years. The law intends to relieve the manufacturing sector of such a burden.

But as you may have figured out by now, I am against such a thinking. I say that is not good for our international image as a people. The world will laugh at us.

Imagine, we worked hard over the years to be left behind by our neighbors, even earning for ourselves the world media monicker as the "sick man of Asia."

All that will be lost, just because some lawmakers have this bright idea to do away with the subsidy system in the power sector. Such irresponsible people!

* * *

SO the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas is doing something about interest charges of credit cards, which are even higher than the pitch of the emceeing voice of Kris Aquino. Good luck!

There's really no way for the BSP to force the issue on banks, which issue the cards. All it can do is . . . well, beg!

Generally, you see, interest rates are low. Rates are so low the government even boasts that it saved some P10 billion in interest payments.

Of course, it also forgot to say how much in total interest it paid. Don't forget that we are still up to here with public debts.

Because of the low interest rates, thanks to Bangko Sentral Governor Rafael Buenaventura, interest earnings on deposits can buy you the equivalent of stampita.

On the other hand, despite the poor earnings on deposits, we have credit card interest rates of about 3.5 to 5 percent a month. That's 40 to 60 percent a year.

* * *

IF you use those rates in your neighborhood, say, as an aspiring loan shark, you can be jailed. Not the credit cards. They are decent members of society.

The fact is, we really cannot know how much interest rates that credit cards are charging us. They have all sorts of ways to pad the charges, which are hidden from us.

Credit cards actually use a lot of tricks to get us. For instance, they get commissions from the stores, which the stores never forget to charge on us.

But why the hell do we bother to use credit cards? Basically, I think it's because most of us do not know what we're getting into. There's really no full disclosure here!

Credit cards do not tell us the entire story. If only the BSP can compel to explain things to us . . .

COUNTRY SHARES

As of May 28, 2002

	BUYING	SELLING
ALABANG COUNTRY CLUB A/B*	1.7M *	1,700,000
ALTA VISTA A/C**	600,000 **	450,000 *
BAGUIO COUNTRY CLUB	725,000	750,000
CALATAGAN GOLF CLUB A/B*	75,000	95,000/105,000 *
CAMP JOHN HAY	270,000	280,000
CANLUBANG	500,000	-
CAPITOL HILLS	-	125,000
CELEBRITY SPORTS CLUB	175,000	190,000
EAGLE RIDGE A/B*/C**	630,000 **	350,000/450,000*/700,000 **
EVERCREST A/B*	125,000 *	100,000
FONTANA D/C*/S**	-	90,000/150,000*/250,000 **
FOREST HILLS A/B*/C**	210,000/250,000 **	250,000/290,000 *
MAKATI SPORTS A/B*	250,000/250,000 *	270,000/300,000 *
MANILA POLO CLUB (ASAP)	2.75 M	2,900,000
MANILA SOUTHWOODS A/B*	650,000	650,000/750,000 *
METROPOLITAN A/B*	-	120,000/125,000 *
MIMOSA IND/C2*/C3**	120,000/200,000*/275,000 **	165,000/225,000*/325,000 **
MT. MALARAYAT A/C*	-	350,000/625,000 *
ORCHARD A/B*/C**	200,000	230,000/350,000*/425,000 **
PUERTO AZUL	-	135,000
QUEZON CITY SPORTS CLUB	200,000	225,000
RIVIERA A/B*	-	195,000/400,000 *
ROCKWELL CLUB	450,000	475,000
ROYALE TAGAYTAY A/B*/C**	-	90,000/150,000*/180,000 **
SHERWOOD HILLS A/B*/C**	-	130,000/250,000*/350,000 **
STA. ELENA GOLF CLUB A/B*	1.625M *	1.75M
SUBIC BAY IND/CORP.*	290,000 *	200,000/300,000 *
TAT FILIPINAS GOLF A/B*	-	350,000/550,000 *
TAGAYTAY HIGHLANDS CC/GOLF*	400,000/550,000 *	425,000/900,000 *
TAGAYTAY MIDLANDS	750,000	800,000
VALLE VERDE IND.	150,000	170,000
VALLEY GOLF	230,000	-

Available Lessors for Playing Rights: Alabang, Calatagan, Camp John Hay, Canlubang, Canyon Woods, The Country Club (Free) Celebrity, Eagleridge, Eastridge, Forest Hills, Makati Sports, Malarayat, Orchard, Riviera, Sta. Elena, Southwoods (Free), Tagaytay H-lands & Midlands, Valley Golf, Wack Wack, Rockwell & Others

Need Lessor: Manila Golf (Urgent), Eagleridge B

Selling: Villas, Belleview, Pinecrest & Woodlands in Tagaytay Highlands

Lots: Eagleridge, Forest Hills, Punta Fuego, Royale Tagaytay & Southwoods

Please Call Tel. Nos. 853-1026/27; Globe 0917-8346825 or 0918-8514374

G & W clubshares

SEC License Broker No.: A-17597

As of May 28, 2002

CLUB	SELLER	BUYER
Alabang Country Club "A"	1,650,000	-
Alta Vista	-	300,000
Baguio Country Club	740,000	720,000
Camp John Hay	295,000	-
Capitol Hills Golf & CC	130,000	-
Canyon Woods	190,000	-
Calatagan Golf Club	100,000	-
City Sports Club	830,000	Pls. Call
Eagleridge "A"/"C"*	340,000/600,000*	330,000
Eastridge	200,000	-
Evercrest	100,000	-
Fairways & Blue Waters	600,000	-
Fontana D/C	90,000/140,000	Pls. Call
Forest Hills "A"	230,000	200,000
Manila Golf	-	11,000,000
Manila Polo	2,000,000	2,700,000
Makati Sports Club	260,000	250,000
Manila Southwoods A/B*	650,000/780,000*	650,000*
Metropolitan Club	-	90,000
Mimosa Golf Ind./C3*	140,000/300,000*	-
Mt. Malarayat	350,000	-
Phil. Columbian	60,000	60,000
Punta Fuego	Pls. Call	Pls. Call
Puerto Azul "A"/"B"	100,000/Pls. Call	-
Quezon City Sports Club "A"	240,000	210,000
Riviera Golf "A"/"C"*	180,000/450,000*	-
Riviera Golf "B"	250,000	-
Rockwell	400,000	325,000
Royale Tagaytay A/C	90,000/140,000	70,000
Sherwoods	105,000	-
Subic Bay Yacht Club "Corp"	400,000	300,000
Subic Golf	190,000	-
Tagaytay Country Club	430,000	400,000
Tagaytay Highlands Golf & CC	-	800,000
Tagaytay Midlands	780,000	750,000
Valley Golf & CC	-	200,000
Valle Verde (Indv.)	180,000	-
Wack Wack Golf	7,200,000	-

FREE PLAYING RIGHTS AVAILABLE Looking For Forest Hills Inactive Share

TL 6436309/Tel. No. 6359918/6359838/6359725/(0919)7041848/(0917)8191914

Mon.–Fri., 9:00 am – 6:00 pm Sat., 8:00 am – 12:00 pm

Unit 1402 Medical Plaza Ortigas, San Miguel Avenue, Pasig City

GOLFERS CLUB SHARES, INC.

SEC LICENSE # A 1998-2129

AS OF MAY 27, 2002

	SELLING	BUYING
1. ALABANG COUNTRY CLUB "A"	1,700,000	
2. ALABANG COUNTRY CLUB "B"	1,750,000	1,700,000
3. BAGUIO COUNTRY CLUB	750,000	650,000
4. CALATAGAN GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "A"	100,000	80,000
5. CAMP JOHN HAY	300,000	250,000
6. CANLUBANG GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	600,000	550,000
7. CAPITOL HILLS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	120,000	
8. CELEBRITY CLUB	190,000	175,000
9. COUNTRY CLUB AT TAGAYTAY HIGHLANDS		370,000
10. CLUB FILIPINO	210,000	190,000
11. EASTRIDGE GOLF CLUB "A"	200,000	
12. EAGLERIDGE GOLF CLUB "A"	350,000	330,000
13. EVERCREST GOLF CLUB "A"	100,000	
14. FOREST HILLS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "A"	220,000	200,000
15. FOREST HILLS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "B"	280,000	
16. FOREST HILLS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "C"	500,000	
17. MAKATI SPORTS CLUB "A"	260,000	
18. MAKATI SPORTS CLUB "B"	280,000	
19 MANILA GOLF CLUB (IND.)		10,500,000
20 MANILA POLO CLUB	2,800,000	2,700,000
21. MANILA SOUTHWOODS GOLF CLUB "A"	650,000	620,000
22. MANILA SOUTHWOODS GOLF CLUB "B"	750,000	700,000
23 METROPOLITAN CLUB "A"	100,000	80,000
24. METROPOLITAN CLUB "B"	150,000	
25. MT MALARAYAT GOLF CLUB (IND.)	350,000	
26 ORCHARD GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "A"	200,000	
27. ORCHARD GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "B"	250,000	
28. ORCHARD GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "C"	370,000	
29 QUEZON CITY SPORTS CLUB	230,000	210,000
30 RIVIERA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "A"	200,000	
31. RIVIERA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "B"	250,000	210,000
32. STA. ELENA GOLF CLUB "A"	1,800,000	
33 SUBIC BAY YACHT CLUB (IND)	250,000	
34 TAGAYTAY HIGHLANDS INT'L GOLF CLUB		850,000
35 TAGAYTAY MIDLAND		750,000
36 VALLE VERDE COUNTRY CLUB	170,000	160,000
37 VALLEY GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB		240,000
38. WACK WACK GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB		6,500,000

ASSIGNMENT OF PLAYING RIGHTS PLS. CALL

JUST S. VIRAY
TRADING MANAGER

PAUL CORTEZ
PRESIDENT

LALA SALAO / LYDIA HASEGAWA

TEL. NOS. 8175655 / 8121066 / 8193560

7517982 CP#0917-8114892

PRCI sells P600M in Sta. Ana shares

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE PHILIPPINE Racing Club Inc. has agreed to sell P600 million worth of shares in its subsidiary, Sta. Ana Park Square Holdings, to local financial holding company Precision Holdings & Equities Corp.

Sta. Ana Park Square owns a portion of the 25.6-hectare Sta. Ana racetrack in Makati.

In a disclosure, PRCI informed the Philippine Stock Exchange that it was selling shares in Sta. Ana Park Square as part of its plan to relocate its racetrack from Makati to Cavite south of Metro Manila so it can convert its Makati property into a commercial and residential hub.

The company said it was also selling some lands to raise funds to pay off its creditors.

PRCI said its board agreed to sell shares in Sta. Ana Park Square on May 24.

It did not disclose how many shares would be sold, but persons familiar with the transaction said the amount was likely equivalent to a controlling, if not a 100-percent stake in Sta. Ana Park Square.

PRCI spun off Sta. Ana Park Square on Oct. 22 and assigned 4 to 6 has. of its Makati property as subscription to the capital stock.

Based on incorporation papers filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, Precision Holdings is a local financial holding company formed on June 28 last year.

Its five incorporators are identified as Anabel Dorotan, Oscar Tan, Santos Tan, Fernando Yeo and Victor Yu.

PRCI was established in 1935 and listed in 1952, making it one of the country's oldest racing clubs. It operates computerized off-track betting stations.

Some of its real estate assets were previously spun off to Ebecom Holdings Inc.

PLDT launches pay-per-surf Internet service

POST-PAID residential subscribers of No. 1 telecom firm Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. will soon be able to access the Internet even without connecting to a service provider.

Dubbed as "PLDT Vibe," the new service allows PLDT subscribers to log on to the Internet by simply configuring their personal computers and dialing "101300."

Users will be charged 50 centavos a minute during peak hours and 25 centavos a minute during non-peak hours.

These charges will be incorporated in a subscriber's telephone bills.

"This pay-per-surf Internet service is aimed at maintaining competitiveness vis-a-vis other telecom companies (and maximizing) PLDT's network resources and generating new revenue streams by strategically participating in the Internet/consumer data services market," PLDT national retail marketing sector head Joaquin San Agustin said in a news statement.

San Agustin said thousands of PLDT postpaid subscribers were already using the new Internet service.

"In less than one month," he said, "the number of subscribers that signed up with PLDT Vibe made the Internet service one of the top ISPs in the country in terms of subscriber base." *Abigail L. Ho*

DISCLOSURES

CITYLAND Development Corp. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on June 4, 4 p.m., at Cityland Condominium 10 Tower II in Makati. Only stockholders as of May 5 are entitled to vote during the meeting.

* * *

SEMIRARA Mining Corp. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on June 5, 10 a.m., at Dacon Building, Chino Roces Ave. in Makati. Only stockholders as of May 6 are entitled to vote during the meeting.

* * *

ELECTED directors of **Union Bank of the Philippines** are Jon Ramon Aboitiz, Antonio Moraza, Stephen Paradies, Juan Antonio Bernad, Justo Ortiz, Vicente Ayllon, Johnny Araneta, Jose Bernabe, Bernardino Abes, Lucito Sioson, Arturo San Gabriel, Victor Valdepeñas, Erramon Aboitiz, Armand Braun Jr. and Raoul Inocentes.

* * *

THE BOARD of **Philippine Racing Club Inc.** has approved and ratified an agreement to sell its shares in its wholly owned subsidiary, **Sta. Ana Park Square Holdings Inc.**, to **Precision Holdings and Equities Corp.** for P600 million.

* * *

PHILEX Mining Corp. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on June 27, 2 p.m., at the Manila Galleria Suites. Only stockholders as of April 26 are entitled to vote during the meeting.

* * *

ABACUS Consolidated Resources and Holdings Inc. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on June 17, 9 a.m., at the Café Centennial of Club Filipino. Only stockholders as of June 7 are entitled to vote during the meeting. ***Compiled by Maricar D. Tolosa, PDI Research***

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of Monday, May 27, 2002)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Banco De Oro Univ. Bank	20.5	20.5	20.5	20.5	1,480,600
Bank of the Phil. Islands	56	56.5	55.5	56	230,600
China Banking Corp.	625	625	625	625	100
Chinatrust Comm. Bank	18	18	18	18	6,600
Citystate Savings Bank	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	1,000
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	39.5	39.5	39.5	39.5	228,800
First E-Bank Corp.	1.74	1.84	1.74	1.84	360,000
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	40.5	41	39.5	39.5	25,000
Philippine National Bank	40	40	39.5	39.5	21,500
Security Bank Corp.	15.5	15.5	15	15	63,000
Union Bank of the Phil.	23.25	23.5	23.25	23.25	173,700
FINANCIAL SERVICE					
Bankard Inc.	1.34	1.34	1.34	1.34	60,000
Manulife Financial Corp.	1470	1480	1470	1480	2,700
PCI Leasing & Fin. Inc.	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	70,000
Sun Life Financial Serv.	1100	1105	1100	1105	900
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	30	30	30	30	18,600
Digital Telecom Phils. Inc.	0.59	0.62	0.59	0.62	2,490,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	660	660	660	660	1,470
Ipeople Inc.	0.82	0.82	0.82	0.82	10,000
Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp.	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	63,000
Piltel	0.39	0.42	0.39	0.41	1,990,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	435	450	435	447.5	180,750
Philweb.Com Inc.	0.017	0.017	0.016	0.017	16,500,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	23	24.5	23	24.5	800
Manila Electric Co. B	38	38	36	36	214,000
Petron Corp.	1.86	1.86	1.86	1.86	6,274,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	2.65	2.65	2.65	2.65	187,000
Lorenzo Shipping Corp.	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	300,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Republic Glass Hldg. Corp.	1.62	1.62	1.62	1.62	20,000
Union Cement Corp.	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	50,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	35,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	13.5	13.75	13.5	13.75	74,000
La Tondeña Distillers Inc.	34	34	33.5	34	307,900
RFM Corp.	1.3	1.3	1.28	1.28	250,000
San Miguel Corp. A	48	48	47.5	48	35,800
San Miguel Corp. B	56	56.5	55.5	55.5	220,700
Universal Robina Corp.	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	199,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Ayala Corp.	5.7	5.8	5.7	5.8	1,256,000
Alsons Cons. Res. Inc.	0.13	0.15	0.13	0.15	500,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	2.32	2.34	2.32	2.34	20,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.0085	0.0085	0.0085	0.0085	42,000,000
ATN Holdings Inc.	2.6	2.85	2.6	2.85	25,000
Balabac Resources & Hldgs.	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	200,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	0.54	0.54	0.53	0.53	1,170,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	1.46	1.46	1.46	1.46	11,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	24	24	24	24	55,600
Forum Pacific Inc.	0.11	0.135	0.11	0.135	600,000
Global Equities Inc.	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	560,000
Ionics Inc.	7	7	7	7	1,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	1.78	1.78	1.78	1.78	4,000
Macroasia Corp.	0.96	0.96	0.95	0.95	80,000
Marsteel Cons. Inc. A	0.012	0.012	0.012	0.012	2,000,000
Megaworld Corp.	0.77	0.77	0.76	0.77	4,960,000
Multitech Inv. Corp.	0.53	0.53	0.5	0.5	140,000
Music Corp.	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	120,000
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	200,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Mabuhay Vinyl Corp.	0.61	0.61	0.61	0.61	120,000
Picop Resources Inc.	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	1,000,000
SPI Technologies Inc.	10.75	10.75	10	10	30,500
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICE					
Belle Corp.	0.38	0.39	0.38	0.39	210,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.47	0.47	0.47	0.47	150,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	110,000
Grand Plaza Hotel Corp.	11	11	11	11	12,600
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (Pdr)	30.5	30.5	30.5	30.5	109,200
Globe Telecom Hldg. (Pdr)	815	815	815	815	300
PLDT (10% Pref.) Series U	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	100
PLDT (10% Pref) Series V	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	600
PLDT (10% Pref) Series W	10.5	10.5	10.25	10.5	2,100
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Y	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	1,800
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Z	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	100
PLDT 10% Pref Series Aa	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	1,600
Philweb.Com Inc.-Warrants	0.004	0.004	0.004	0.004	3,000,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	7.1	7.2	7.1	7.2	4,731,000
Cityland Development Corp.	3	3	3	3	106,000
C & P Homes Inc.	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.24	420,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	250,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	200,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	3	3	2.95	2.95	1,025,000
Highlands Prime Leisure	1.78	1.78	1.78	1.78	10,000
MRC Allied Ind. Inc.	0.17	0.19	0.17	0.19	240,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	6	6.1	6	6	228,000
MINING					
Atlas Cons. Min & Dev't.	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	185,000
Itogon-Suyoc Mines Inc.	0.039	0.04	0.039	0.04	8,800,000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.22	0.23	0.22	0.23	830,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co. B	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.24	320,000
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.005	0.005	0.005	0.005	58,000,000
Omico Corp.	0.0038	0.0038	0.0038	0.0038	3,000,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.31	700,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	0.33	0.34	0.33	0.34	500,000
OIL					
Imperial Res.	0.015	0.015	0.015	0.015	1,700,000
Interport Res. B	0.0036	0.0036	0.0036	0.0036	2,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.0032	0.0032	0.0032	0.0032	60,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. B	0.0032	0.0032	0.0032	0.0032	20,000,000
Pacifica	0.012	0.012	0.012	0.012	500,000
Sinophil Corp.	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	100,000

	SHARES	VALUE (P)
Banks & Fin Svc	2,713,420	65,182,060.00
Comm'l & Ind'l	88,268,320	153,946,890.00
PRO	7,210,000	39,082,550.00
Mining	72,335,000	1,629,200.00
OIL	104,300,000	363,700.00
GRAND TOTALS:	274,827,740	260,204,400.00

	AVERAGES	
Banks & Fin Svc	542.19	DOWN 2.22
Comm'l & Ind'l	1,803.07	UP 0.24
PRO	608.05	DOWN 1.85
Mining	1,460.85	DOWN 7.94
OIL	1.23	UNCH 0.00
All Shares Index	760.61	UP 1.01
Composite	1,333.09	DOWN 2.03

NO. OF ADVANCES: 20; NO. OF DECLINES: 30; NO. OF UNCHANGED: 46; NO. OF TRADED ISSUES: 96; NO. OF TRADES: 1,415

CURRENCIES

May 27, 2002 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Foreign currency in US$	Foreign currency in Peso
United States	Dollar	1.085541	1.000000	50.0900
Japan	Yen	0.008707	0.008021	0.4018
United Kingdom	Pound	1.582393	1.457700	73.0162
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.139185	0.128217	6.4224
Switzerland	Franc	0.686052	0.631991	31.6564
Canada	Dollar	0.708161	0.652358	32.6766
Singapore	Dollar	0.603749	0.556174	27.8588
Australia	Dollar	0.603413	0.555864	27.8432
Bahrain	Dinar	2.879571	2.652661	132.8718
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.289478	0.266667	13.3574
Brunei	Dollar	0.602074	0.554631	27.7815
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000122	0.000112	0.0056
Thailand	Baht	0.025340	0.023343	1.1693
UAE	Dirham	0.295570	0.272279	13.6385
Korea	Won	0.000884	0.000814	0.0408
Euro	Euro	1.000000	0.921200	46.1429
Brazil	Real	0.428053	0.394322	19.7516
Denmark	Kroner	0.134557	0.123954	6.2089
India	Rupee	0.022191	0.020442	1.0239
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.285669	0.263158	13.1816
Mexico	New Peso	0.113515	0.104570	5.2379
New Zealand	Dollar	0.511083	0.470810	23.5829
Norway	Kroner	0.134441	0.123847	6.2035
Pakistan	Rupee	0.018122	0.016694	0.8362
South Africa	Rand	0.108717	0.100150	5.0165
Sweden	Kroner	0.109574	0.101094	5.0638
Syria	Pound	0.024840	0.022883	1.1462
Taiwan	NT Dollar	0.031685	0.029189	1.4621
Venezuela	Bolivar	0.001083	0.000998	0.0500

Shares

From page B1

managers over the recovery prospects for the country," Mark Securities chief market strategist Manny Cruz said

The main index closed down 2.03 points, or 0.15 percent, at 1,333.09 points, after trading slightly higher for most of the day.

Turnover was a paltry P256.39 million from P503.23 million last Friday, reflecting investor disinterest.

The market was bolstered by the country's top telecom firm, PLDT, which rose P15, or 3.47 percent, to P447.50.

"The market uptrend in the morning was brought about by the sharp gains in PLDT . . . its largely due to bargain hunting," Cruz said. *Reuters*

Palace seeks amendments to public utility law

By Jun Malig
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO, Pampanga—Malacañang will ask Congress to amend the public utility law to allow an American company to invest some $170 million in a ship repair and maintenance facility at the Subic Bay Freeport Zone.

Ricardo Saludo, chief of the Presidential Management Staff, told reporters here on Saturday that Kellog Brown & Root (KBR), a subsidiary of the Dallas-based Halliburton Corp. that was once chaired by United States Vice President Richard Cheney, would like to transform Subic Freeport into a world-class commercial facility.

"Existing laws, however, should be amended first before KBR could start repairing and maintaining highly sophisticated ships at Subic," Saludo said.

He said ship repair was classified as public utility, like transportation and electricity, which is covered by the 60-40 ownership restriction.

The provisions on National Economy and Patrimony under Article XII, Section 11 of the Philippine Constitution states that at least 60 percent of a public utility firm shall be owned by Filipinos or Philippine corporations.

Saludo said the law that classified ship repair as a public utility "has been there since the Commonwealth period."

He said Malacañang would convince lawmakers to amend the law and remove ship repair from the public utility list.

An online publication of the American Civil Liberties Union said KBR was awarded a contract by the United States government to provide "day-to-day support services" to US troops in Afghanistan and Uzbekistan where the main military support of the US-led war against Osama Bin Laden's al-Qaida network was based.

Gale Smith, a spokesperson of the US Army Operations Support Command in Alexandra, Virginia, was quoted by the report as saying that KBR would do maintenance, laundry, food, airfield and supply services for the US troops.

During President Macapagal-Arroyo's working visit to the United States last year, SBMA Chair Felicito Payumo and KBR chief executive officer Thomas Crum signed a memorandum of agreement for the establishment of ship repair facilities at the former Subic Naval Base.

The KBR's operation will include repair and overhaul of commercial vessels, construction and refurbishing of luxury yachts, construction and repair of oil field equipment and facilities, and repair and maintenance of naval ships from the Philippines, United States and the navies of other countries.

Saludo said the schemes being considered by the government for the KBR's investment in Subic include build-lease-transfer and joint venture agreement.

Scientists back Malacañang on biotechnology

INFLUENTIAL members of the Philippine science community have expressed support for President Macapagal-Arroyo's move to adopt modern biotechnology as an anchor of the government's food security program.

In a statement, they also blasted propaganda efforts by certain quarters "to create a scare campaign against genetically modified organisms (GMOs)."

This group of scientists is composed of the presidents of the Women Association of Scientists in the Philippines, the Women Inventors Association of the Philippines, the Philippine Association for the Advancement of Science and Technology, the Crop Science Society of the Philippines, the Biochemical Society of the Philippines, the Women in Science and Technology Development Foundation Inc. and the Pest Management Council of the Philippines.

Leading Filipino scientists based in the University of the Philippines also joined the fight against the black propaganda efforts against biotechnology. Among them are Professors Nelle Lopez of the UP Diliman Institute of Biology, Emeica Cao of the UP Diliman Natural Science Research Institute and Nina Barzaga of the UP Manila Institute of Molecular Biology .

ABAC MEET IN SYDNEY

Roberto R. Romulo (right), Apec Business Advisory Council (Abac) Philippines chair, led the Philippine contingent to the second Abac meeting of 2002 in Sydney, Australia. During the meeting, members agreed that Abac should develop recommendations on enhancing security and sharing development among member-economies. With Romulo in the meeting are (from left) businessman Benigno Ricafort Jr., Imelda Nicolas and Australian Prime Minister John Howard. Abac is composed of up to three senior business representatives from each of Apec's 21 member-economies who are appointed by their respective heads of economy to advise Apec economic leaders and ministers.

Pension fund keen on privatizing insurance business

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE GOVERNMENT Service Insurance System is planning to put up a spin-off company to pave the way for the possible privatization of its insurance business.

GSIS president and general manager Winston Garcia told reporters that the pension fund would seriously study this option if the World Bank would recommend it favorably.

He said the World Bank was conducting a study to determine if the privatization of the GSIS' insurance business would be feasible and more advantageous for the state. The study is scheduled for completion in July.

Garcia said the insurance business was contributing about P700 million to the GSIS' yearly income.

He said the GSIS' spin-off company might sell part of its equity to foreign insurance firms.

The plan to privatize the insurance business of the GSIS, he said, was conceived in anticipation of the liberalization of the insurance sector under the World Trade Organization.

GSIS is the pension provider for more than 1.5 million government employees. It is also the sole insurer of all state-owned assets.

Garcia said the pension fund was also considering proposals of investment banks for the GSIS to have some offshore investments.

"But the finance department strongly advised us against pursuing it because of its impact on the foreign exchange rate," said Garcia.

GSIS' actuarial life is projected to last up to 2068.

GSIS profit up 25.5%

THE GOVERNMENT Service Insurance System (GSIS) last year posted a net income of P25.8 billion, or 25.5 percent higher than its profit in the previous year of P20.56 billion. Its gross income last year was P52.513 billion, 11.38 percent more than the year-ago level.

The hefty increase in the earnings of the GSIS came about despite a P4.641-billion increase in claims and benefits disbursements. In year 2001, P22.281 billion was paid compared with P18.240 billion in 2000, or an increase of 25.44 percent.

GSIS general manager Winston F. Garcia also revealed that salary loans granted to 763,395 members in 2001 amounted to P39.345 billion, which is P7.539 billion more than the P31.806 billion in 2000. Policy loans granted in 2001 t0 770,520 members amounted to P7.294 billion or P1.28 billion higher than the P6.011 billion disbursed in 2000.

Garcia attributed the financial gains of the GSIS to an 11.38-percent improvement in investment income from P12.096 billion in 2000 to P13.473 billion in 2001. Another contributory factor was the huge savings realized by the GSIS in its administrative expense loading.

Assets of the GSIS stand at P205.451 billion, 13.47 percent more than its assets of P181.064 billion in 2000.

Because of the GSIS' viable financial condition, Garcia said that an P18-billion four-year funding for its *"Bahay KO"* (individual real estate loan program) was approved by the GSIS Board of Trustees.

Gov't, Congress urged to regulate shipments of 'balikbayan' boxes

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

PHILIPPINE textile makers are urging the government and Congress to regulate the shipments of *balikbayan* boxes, which they believe were being used by unscrupulous traders to smuggle into the country signature shirts and used clothing and apparel.

The Federation of Philippine Textile Industries (Fopti) said that while the government has clamped down on the importation and sale of used clothes in the country, *wagwagan* and *ukay-ukay* markets continue to flourish nationwide because they were getting their supplies from *balikbayan* boxes largely coming from Hong Kong.

Fopti said that while Baguio City local officials themselves had admitted that their second-hand stores got supplies through *balikbayan* boxes, the government has yet to pursue a case against the smugglers.

Fopti said it would also ask Congress to regulate the entry of *balikbayan* boxes in the country through tighter monitoring of their contents. Fopti stressed that it did not want to cut back on these privileges accorded to *balikbayans* and Filipinos overseas but it merely wanted to curb abuses by unscrupulous traders.

Fopti had earlier successfully lobbied the Department of Social Welfare and Development's decision to ban the importation of used clothing. The DSWD issued Administrative Order No. 19 which disallowed the donations of imported clothing "in order to safeguard the health of the people and maintain the dignity of the nation."

Also, the government mandated all local and national government agencies, public schools, military and police units, government-owned and -controlled corporations, and government financial institutions to use only locally produced textile for their uniforms.

Eternal Plans seen buying smaller pre-need company

By Elena R. Torrijos

ETERNAL Plans of the Cabangon-Chua family is in talks with Pension & Retirement Plan Corp. for possible acquisition in the wake of the latter's inability to meet the Securities and Exchange Commission's minimum paid-up capital requirement.

An SEC official said that members of the Philippine Federation of Pre-Need Plan Companies were invited to buy PRPC, which is owned by the Perez family, and that Eternal Plans was one of those that have started discussions with the small pre-need firm.

The official noted that it seemed that PRPC, which has a paid-up capital of P11 million, would not be able to meet the new capital requirements of the SEC.

All the other pre-need firms have already complied with the capital requirements.

The SEC last month issued a memorandum circular restricting the number of plans a pre-need company could sell unless it met certain capital requirements.

Pre-need companies with a minimum paid-up capital of P50 million but below P75 million can sell only one plan type among the three types such as pension, education and life, and memorial.

Those with capital of P75 million but below P100 million can sell two plan types while those with at least P100 million can sell all the three plan types.

The Commission gave deficient pre-need companies until end of this month to raise their capital to P50 million or face suspension of their operations.

The SEC reported that 45 pre-need companies have been licensed this year. The number was lesser than last year's as the industry has been undergoing consolidation phase.

Certain pre-need companies in the past failed to service claims of their plan holders because of their large trust fund deficiencies arising from unrealistic assumptions and bad investments.

91-day T-bill rate inches up to 4.569%

From page B1

said Deputy National Treasurer Eduardo Mendiola. Normally, a government with a strong cash position decides on a total rejection of offers when these are undersubscribed.

Mendiola accused banks of speculating, but he said that the excess liquidity in the market would force them to reconsider their stance in the next two weeks.

"They wanted to confirm if the government has no money, but we have a very healthy cash position," he stressed.

Still, a trader pointed out that yesterday's auction results were very telling when the government decided to accept P2.725 billion worth of bids for the 91-day as against offers of P2.885 billion, P1.935 billion of the P2.455 billion offered for the 182-day bills, and P645 million for the 364-day of the P1.295 billion worth of bids.

Since March, the government started holding the auction every two weeks with a higher tender of P3.5 billion for the three-month treasuries, P3 billion for the six-month instruments, and P2.5 billion for the one-year bills.

"The chances of meeting the target this year are getting slimmer. What they did last year to rein in the deficit may not be workable this year," said a trader from a local bank. In the first quarter, the government missed its P52.93-billion target by 15.6 percent.

Mendiola admitted that the market was wary about the government's chances of meeting the deficit but he said the Macapagal administration has another alternative for fund-raising which should not unduly raise local interest rates.

"There is still ample liquidity in the market so where would they put their money? They are testing us if we would accept very high bids and we didn't. In fact, we even rationalized the rates," he said.

Mendiola said that treasury bill rates should be stable, if not lower, in the next auction.

"Let us see in two weeks what would happen because the government has other options for raising funds. If they would insist on bidding unreasonably, then we have to source our borrowing elsewhere," warned the deputy treasurer.

Mendiola said he was confident that banks would still invest their money in government securities given a lack of alternatives in the market.

Mendiola said the rate of the four-year bonds in today's auction should decline and align with other medium-term instruments.

On Friday, he said the Treasury would sign a distribution agreement with five local investment banks for the issuance of P10-billion worth of three-, four-, and five-year retail treasury bonds.

He said the retail bonds would be priced on June 7. The underwriters are Land Bank of the Philippines, Development Bank of the Philippines, Banco de Oro, BPI Capital, Equitable PCI Capital and First Metro Investment.

SHDA Welcomes
PACIFIC PAINT & OIL MANUFACTURING, INC.
MAKERS OF:
BOYSEN
The No. 1 PAINT
As SHDA's Official Paint Manufacturer
for the year 2002-2003
BOYSEN joins SHDA in moving
Housing in 2002 and beyond!
LET'S MAKE IT HAPPEN!
JOIN The SHDA
National
Developers
Convention
2002
DUSIT HOTEL NIKKO
MAKATI CITY
JUNE 20-21,2002
For more information regarding registration, sponsorships, reservations and booth exhibits, please call the SHDA Secretariat at tel. nos: (632)8998275 & (632)890-0323 or e-mail us at shda@mozcom.com
OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS
Organized by:
The Subdivision & Housing Developers Association, Inc.
In Coordination with the:
Housing & Urban Development Coordinating Council

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8972635 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 8974808
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6872354 ☎ 6872366 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5280183 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS

The Widest Reaching Classifieds

TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2002

RATES
P230 per column centimeter
P65 per line
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINES
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Mondays to Saturdays
12:00 noon
Day before publication
Sundays
12:00 noon
every Thursday

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

MEDICAL

PHYSICIAN/SURGEON

RAPID Tx VD-STD
SCARS Ex SWEAT ALLERGIES
16 Annapolis, Greenhills
Call 7276124 to 26 9am-7pm

VDSTD Matrinco Bldg. 2178 P. Tamo 8175071

PERSONAL

COSMETOLOGY

AROMATHERAPY
SPA BODY TREATMENT
TRAINING / WORKSHOP
8956031 L2011 OR 8971832

FACIAL SKINCARE
TRAINING / WORKSHOP
8956031 L2011 OR 8971832

HEALTH/FITNESS

Weight Less
Call 521-9603 / 0917-4770408

MASSAGE

'02 Malebox 3233269

'02 Malebox 3233269

@ HUMAN @
MEN'S TOUCH 844-3896

• 889-0170 •
MALE AUTHORITY

•ADAMS-X (M) 8325228•

AKHIN THAI MASSAGE#0917 4116004 Mla & Cebu srvcs

Harold Massage 09164143423

★BONG 0916-4329065★

•Ivan Masseur 7046757•

JAMES MALE 24HRS SERVICE 8511883 ; 0916-4404374

MALE 16 PALANAN 7320659

MASSAGE 4727243 JOHN

Pretty, European Girl 0919-2526922

SHIATSU M/F 2862142 Rene

UNWIND 752-0437

VIP-M/F-24H-SVC 8312373 Romy

REFLEXOLOGY

FEELS GOOD REFLEXOLOGY CENTER 412-7758 / 413-4027

MALE SPA 562 BANAUE 7411426

REFLEX CARLA 716-4898

HOUSEHOLD

FLOOR SANDING

JL Flr Sand serv 4102824

HOUSEHOLD JOBS

BEST MAIDS 8533504•8533505

Direct Maid Yaya Int'l Cook 7572089

Good Maid Yaya Cook 7572089

Good-Maid-Yaya-Boy 870-9384

Help Agency 532-1947 • 532-8376

Loyalty Honesty&Guarantee Maids w/NBI&BI •8227269/7769512•

MAIDS W/NBI 5349075

MAIDS•2594067•9268984

MIDWIFE MAID 8708799

NURSE•Midwife•Oldsitter•Yaya 8720265•8735062•8712372

Prov'l MAID YAYA COOK LABA BOY DRIVER 872-2792•873-5271

REL'BLE MAID YAYA 5628581

RELIABLE HONEST MAIDS W/ NBI 4213253

ANGEL'S HANDS MAIDS W/NBI&BI 883-4270

RELIABLE MAIDS 8330946/47

TRUSTED QUALITY MAIDS W/NBI & BI 4213828

Yaya Maid Cook Laba 9133924

LIPAT BAHAY

L-BAHAY 9206784 4540520

A-1 Lipat Bahay 4313974

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

HOUSEHOLD

LIPAT BAHAY

•CHEAP LBAHAY 9260424•

LBAHAY 7113540

L-BAHAY 712-16-92

LPTBAHAY 8054913/8010750

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

MAKATI

Dasmarinas Vill. LA620 FA480 3BR Den • 535-5126

Magallanes LA400 2Stry 3BR Den Neg Price 535-5126

PALM VILLAGE FA200 3BR 2TB 6.5M Only 535-5126

San Miguel Vill. LA330 3BR 2TB 10.5M • 535-5126

MANILA

NR LA SALLE TAFT Twnhse/4stry/3br/3tb/grge P3.173M up 8903461 loc 34

MANDALUYONG

E. Greenhills Nr Church LA 600 6br Pool Call 634-1212

MARIKINA

Qrmlnd bnew 3br 2M 9487112

Rush! Calumpang LA 293 2BR+1TB 0917-2429078

PARAÑAQUE

H&L/Lots Sale/Rent 8239255

PASIG

Nr Reedley Int'l School LA 230 FA 200 Call 634-1212

QUEZON CITY

1073M Mayon St. SMH QC O.B. 929-8376

300M Banawe St. SMH QC DB 929-8376

362M Banawe SMH QC D.B. 929-8376

3.7Hectares Antipolo Poultry Direct Buyers • 929-8376

450m² Violago I Visayas Ave. 5BR 4Car Garage • 929-8376

800m² Apo St SMH QC 929-8376 / 0919-4024987

500m² Speaker Perez SMH 929-8376

950M² Banawe SMH QC DB 929-8376

L-280m² Apo St. Sta Mesa Hgt. Old House 929-8376

L-411m² D. Tuazon SMH QC 2Sty 929-8376 / 0919-4024987

L-624m² SFDM QC Whse 2Sty 4br w/Office Call 929-8376

L600m² Mindanao Ave. QC Comml Lot w/Hse • 929-8376

LA471 Congressional Ave. Comm'l Lot QC • 929-8376

Malaya St Cor. Banaue 7314018

RIZAL

Bentley Park Subd LA108 FA100 3br2tb 09178174547

PROVINCIAL

STA. ROSA 6T/MO 11YRS 0498373083

OTHER AREAS

LAGUNA BEL AIR 3
30 mins from Makati, Grab corner lots 0917-9114250 Luis

RUSH!CanyonWoods Bingas 6.5M 09166052638

LOT

PASIG

Corinthian 800m² 634-1212

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LOT

QUEZON CITY

★ FERNDALE QC ★
Ayala Res Lots New Phase
204-290m² @ P9.500-P12,160
Pay 20-30% Bal 5yrs Mo. Int.
HSES & LOTS - 3BR 3TB
150-300FA 200-300LA @ P6M P13M
2yrs-10yrs w/ AyalaA1 Facilities
★ Ayala Grnfields ★
Calamba Mt Makiling 360° view
400-1800m² lots@ 6T/m² & up
30% down Bal. 5-7 yrs. Inst.
w/ Facilities See to Appreciate
9319117 ★ 9319160 Banez

L1000 Fairview QC V-Lot 0919-4024987 • 929-8376

L600m² Del Monte Ave VLot Corner Lot • 929-8376

L932 Baesa QC VLot 4Ind 0919-4024987 • 929-8376

•New Manila•
3,300m² P19T/m² Neg. cor. Lot 7220578 / 7240394/ Glb 8307820

PROVINCIAL

Canyon Woods Lot EZ Pymt Scheme • 534-6610 • Jojo

Invest now and
gain a lot in the future
Cavite Light Ind'l Park
With 1.98 Hec. Commerical Blk.
Phase 1 Ready for Move-in
Phase II at Php. 1,600/sqm
Maguyam Rd. Carmona Cavite
Tel. 635-8108/631-4069 Jonathan
Brokers are Welcome

CONDO/TWNHSE/ APT

MAKATI

GREEN CASTLE REALTY INV
MAKATI / TOWNHOUSES
Sampaloc St. San Antonio Vill
Flr. Area 185.55 sqm
3BR / 3TB / 1 Garage P5.5M
(045)963-0060 / 963-0068

MANDALUYONG

Parking 4 Sale P700T Wack² Royale Mansion 633-7601/03

PASIG

5 Yrs 2 Pay 0 Int + Big Discount 671-2049 / 9651

Condo Crisanta Twr Nr Ultra 2br 2tb 1 Prk Call 634-1212

Phoenix Hts Condo 2-3BR 4.5M-5M 412-1825 0917-7914366

Sale / Rent Alexandra Condo 3br 4tb Call 633-7601/03

Town-Hse Nr Capitol 8 3 Levels FA 81 P3.4 Neg. Call 634-1212

QUEZON CITY

2.5M Nr ABS-CBN
10% D.P. payable in 6 mos
Balance 10 or 15 years to pay
Call 926-4070 ; 924-1402

CUBAO Condo 1.4M 10% D.P. 9124428 9132224 9120647

Rush Landsdale 45.34sqm FFurnish P2M 09202201489

Rush!TandangSora 3br+1md 2tb P2.4M 0917-5140997

Teacher's Vill. Malingap St Solid 3BR/3TB/2Grg Attic nr Bayan Tel P4.5M Cash Cars /Bank Loan 9319117;9319160

OTHER AREAS

DUPLEX Cainta Country Homes RENT 2 OWN 0917-8958021

MEMORIAL LOT

Heritage Memorial Park Lawn Garden Estate 929-8376

FACTORY/WHSE

WAREHOUSES
FACTORIES
LUCKY HAUS REALTY
Tel 9126020 9126021

FARM/FISHPEN

•BATAAN, Orion 5has@P20 300mangoes 250cocnuts etc no plants@P5-10/m² Call 824-6387

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

CB RICHARD ELLIS
Brand New Res. Units for Lease
Essensa-Luxury 3BR
Fort Bonifacio, 290 sqm.
Classica Tower-123BR
Salcedo Village, Makati
43-157 sqm., 18-85K UF/FF
More properties available:
752-2580, 759-4091
848-7388, 750-0127
759-2335, 0917-8381928
manila@cbrichardellis.com

APARTMENT

ALABANG

• New Apartment For Rent •
Up and Down 2 Bedrooms
Call 842-9178
Contact Mr. Alex Bagual
TS Cruz Ayala Alabang

MAKATI

3BR W/TEL PARKING 8446392

HOUSE

QUEZON CITY

Nova 3br 2tb Grg P9T 929-9835

RIZAL

ANTIPOLO INDAY SUBD 10T 4BR 4TB FUR NR SCH 9121163 9132527 09202465050

PROVINCIAL

STA. ROSA BAYAN 893-9279

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

BNEW MKTI CONDO-11K
Oxford Suites, FF
Elegant w/Nice View
nr. Buendia & Mktl. Ave.
7594091•7522580•09178381928

SSH nr CASH & CARRY 1-3BR,66-115sqm 10-18T/mo P&L2 CONDO 551-2586

FOR LEASE

LOT L-1289 Cong. Ave. QC Long Term Call 929-8376

Vacant LOT L-1012M Mindanao Ave. QC 929-8376

Vacant LOT L-903m² Mindanao Ave. QC P45T/mo. 929-8376

ROOM & BOARD

Apt. Ateneo San Beda Bar Review Outlet Aircon Nr Edsa Boni Tel. 532-2641

Ladies Room Nr Global /Rockwell T8819011/7504596

LADY ONLY STUDIO very private w/TB 4T/mo 9121163

New Ladies Dorm Nr UST Class"A" Tel.6451165/6810992

BEDSPACE

•LADIES SHARE CONDO•
BURGUNDY WESTBAY TWR V. Cruz Taft nr LaSalle 6K Up Also 4 rent:123BR/coml units 752-2580 848-7388 759-4091 0917-8381928 0917-8370184

Prof. Single Ladies P1350 Nr Boni-EDSA Mand 532-9925

WANTED TO BUY

ATTN: PROPERTY OWNERS
•For IMMEDIATE Occupancy•
EXPATS looking for hses. In Forbes, Dasma, Urdaneta, and units in Rockwell, Essensa, Pacific Plaza Tower, 1 Roxas, etc.
T-7594091 • 7500127 • 7592335

LOAN & MORTGAGE

2% w/o TAKING CAR 3670169

BUSINESS RENTAL

Nr BUENDIA along PTAMO 38/85/62/185m² 1st class Bldg. 8903461 loc 34 or 19 ofc hrs

Ofc / Clinic Mkna 646-8546

SSH nr CASH & CARRY 45-92sqm Gr-3/F 10-25T/mo P&L 2 CONDO 551-2586

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

BUSINESS RENTAL

WHOLE 4TH FLR 306 SQM UMC BLDG 900 UN AVE NR TAFT LRT 5211114

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

BMW

95 BMW 525i White
Lito Tel#623-0981

HYUNDAI

99 Strx AT P480T 0917-9160364

MITSUBISHI

1995 Mit Galant V6 Fully Loaded First Owned Pls. Contact Liza, Roshel, Roger Tel. 533-9316 / 533-4718 / 643-8798 Fax 631-4136

M. PAJERO 2000MDL
White Orig 4x4 P1.250M
8558278 / 09177062403
& Astro Van 1997 P300T

Pajero Trooper Surf Mu Safari Terrano Dolica HiAce Suzuki Van Tx Pd 9126076; 9120647; 4381480

TOYOTA

'94 Corolla GLI M/T FLD
P235T • T#0917-5414945

GLI Corolla 1999
Beige Metalic Well Maintained
All Orig. • 0918-9108396

TOWNACE A/T 248T 9267433

OTHER CAR BRANDS

MEGA SALE
Lowest Price at Stake Few Items Left Cars / Vans / 4x4 / Pick-up Pls. Call 645-2366 • 645-7868 Text Msg. 0918-9006000

BUSES/TRUCKS

ELF CANTER SUZUKI PORTER BONGO 9132224 9124428

MINI/SCHOOL BUS Good for Rugged Road TEL.# 932-5160 / 932-9259

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

L3•Cars• 9273453 4530295

Starex MB100
Coaster Bus
Call 631-3496 • 637-7396

ABC-CARS & VANS
Starex, Urvan, REVO, L300, HiAce, MB100, Altis, Honda, Cefiro, Lancer, Corolla, Lynx, Corona, Exalta, Mazda, Sentra Open 24 hrs 536-8822/303-9789

AC / NON-AC BUS Contact Us TEL. # 932-5160 / 932-9259

BRDAL MB VANS 9296250

CAR VANS 410-0495

Vans Coaster Bus 913-9123

FCU Car Rental
Daily Weekly Monthly
Toyota Honda Mit Van
Tel 722-8434 / 722-8438

IT/HIACE 9136710/4333682

L300 T7411356

L300/Vans 578-8917 (Roger)

MARIAN CARS BRIDAL VANS CSTER 8957247/8969956

Toyce Cars / Vans / Starex / Coaster / Rental 800-6595

WANTED TO BUY

BUYING USED CARS 8990215

CAR LOAN

1.25% w/o Taking Car 0919-7749942

1.5% FAST CAR LOAN 3677523/24

2% w/o Taking Car 8986633

2% w/o Taking Car 7228942/43

2% w/o taking car 7262780

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CAR LOAN

2% w/oTaking Car 3646928

2% w/oTaking Car 3732083

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

FURNITURE

P30T UP Kawai etc. P65T YAMAHA Term/Cash 9240834

PETS

DOG TRAINER 09192060952

DOG TRAINER 4528681

PHIL. DOG SCHOOL
LICENSED BY THE GOVT. 721-3736 / 0917-8483181

SPORTING GOODS

22T Nu-Cmplt Imp 7767507 Sr

BILLIARDS P30/35/38T A1 Qlty B.New 8020566/8014494

Brnd New BILLIARD TABLE 1st Class 0916-4213989

WANTED TO BUY

ANY ROLEX
Buy / Sell / Pawn / Repair
Tel# 804-0484 • 834-2866

B/SELL FULY PD EDUC PLAN Gio 7137284 09177939632

BUYING ROLEX
others, High Price CASH 09178142309/7269687/4123543

Buy/Pawn Diamonds T834-2866

WE BUY AT HIGH PRICE
ROLEX
5633742 5646593 09178473744

WE BUY
GOLD
HIGHEST PRICE
CALL: 8390004
8390060

MISCELLANEOUS

B/SELL EDUC'L PLAN 8061574

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

FEMALE

F-ESCORT • 0917-9593176

MED TECH 899-1459 or 0917-4108999 • 0918-3562777

Office Staff Female College Gard / Level Computer Literate Resident of Marikina / Cainta / Pasig Call 682-6715 Ms. Aguinaldo

Pre-School Teacher 9414361

MALE/FEMALE

•Ofc Staff 18-45y/o w/w/oexp Start asap 9134470 Grace

ACCOUNTING CLERK
Call 845-0733 Ofc Hrs

BEAUTICIAN Submit resume w/pic May 31 1-5PM 1372 Qzn Blvd. 0917-2504055 Gale

CARE GIVER T5280722

Direct Hire Office Adm Staff 9134470 Start ASAP Ms. Fe

HAIRDRESSER
MANICURIST
CALL 895-5031 Loc 2011

★OFC STAFF 18/45 yrs old STARTASAP 9134470 ZOBEL ★

★OFC STAFF 9134470 Armin★

HRD STAFF • 09176163680 / April

★STAFF CALL GIA 9134470

LOAN DEPARTMENT NEW GRAD. KNOWS BASIC ACCTNG & COMPUTER TEL 9100737 NIPPON CREDIT MR. GARCIA

OFC STAFF 9134470HOWARD

OFC STF LK4 CHAD 7492093

•OFFC STAFF 9134470 CATE

2 - AUCTION SALES

OFFICE FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT;
FAST FOOD RESTAURANT EQUIPMENT;
HOUSEHOLD GOODS; MACHINERY
& EQUIPMENT; MISCELLANEOUS & SCRAPS

IN OVER 400 LOTS INCLUDING:-

FAST FOOD RESTAURANT EQUIPMENT - (24) Stainless Steel Breading Tables; (2) Chillers, (2) MANITOWOK Series 1300 Ice Machine, SUPER HD Mixer, etc
OFFICE FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT - Marble Top Reception Tables, Executive Desks; Asstd. Work Surfaces, Credenzas, Pedestal Drawers; Wooden Cabinets, Steel Cabinets; Work Station Furniture w/ Partitions; A Large Qty. Of Carpet Tiles, EXCEL 22NS Paper Shredder, Binding Machine, SIMPLEX Time Recorder, HEWLETT PACKARD Laser Jet 4 Laser Printer, OKI MICROLINE Dot Matrix Printer, Asstd. Monitors; Asstd. Keyboards, XEROX 5075 Photocopier, Glass Doors; Horizontal Blinds, etc.
MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT - DELTA 18 KVA Transformer, (2) MITSUBISHI, KAWASAKI Petrol Driven Lawn Mowers; HOWA Compactor; ROBIN Concrete Vibrator, Submersible Pumps; Chain Blocks, Manual Pumps, BERKEL 2000 Kg. Cap. Scale, CASCADE 2 15 T Cap. Roll Clamp Assembly, WILD Surveyors Instruments, Asstd Electric/Pneumatic Power Tools; LINCOLN Welder; WILSON Rockwell Tester; CUMMINS Diesel Engine, etc.
HOUSEHOLD GOODS - Rattan Sala Set, Marble Top Tables, Entertainment Center Cabinet, 3D Fans; Ceiling Light Fixture; Curtain Rods; TEAC Turntables, etc.
MISCELLANEOUS & SCRAPS - (200+) Unused Tinted Window Panes; Asstd. Steel Wheels, Asstd. Bearing Caps, Asstd. Electrical Insulators; Asstd. Cable Clamps, Asstd. Fasteners; Asstd. Hoses; MC QUAY Large Cap Split Type Air Conditioner; Asstd. Medical Equipment; Asstd. Safety Equipment; Steel Storage Boxes, Asstd. Fire Extinguishers; Asstd. Gas Cylinders, Asstd. Adhesives, (100+) Unused Tires, etc.

AT: HENRY BUTCHER AUCTION CENTER
BLDG. 7 VRCC ROAD, VETERANS CENTRE, TAGUIG
ON: THURSDAY 30TH MAY 2002- 10:30AM PROMPT
ON VIEW: WEDNESDAY 29TH MAY 2002,
9:00AM - 5:00PM & MORNING OF SALE DAY
REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT: Php20,000.00 (Upon Registration)

Equipment formerly belonging to NEC Philippines (moved for convenience of sale)

PRODUCTION EQUIPMENT; STAINLESS STEEL
PRODUCTION TABLES; RACKING;
CANTEEN EQUIPMENT;
OFFICE FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT;

IN OVER 200 LOTS INCLUDING:-

PRODUCTION EQUIPMENT - Vacuum Pump; Control Boxes; CAMBRIDGE Filter Systems; COMMAX CCTV Monitors; Transformers, Multiple Outlets, 3M Workstation Monitors; Fan Ionizers, etc
FACTORY FURNISHINGS -Boltless Steel Racking; Stainless Steel Racking; Stainless Steel Production Table, Anti-Static Production Chairs, etc.
OFFICE FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT - IBM Pentium II Pro Server 330; IBM Personal Computers, EPSON LQ Dot Matrix Printer; NEC Network Printer, IBM 3570 Tape Machine, Asstd. UPS's; Clerical Desks; Computer Tables; Display Cabinets, Typewriter Tables, Asstd. Pedestal Drawers, etc.
CANTEEN EQUIPMENT - DASEN 4-Door Stainless Steel Refrigerator; Stainless Steel Washing Stations, Stainless Steel Food Trolleys, CONDURA Refrigerator, Monobloc Tables, Monobloc Chairs, etc.
MISCELLANEOUS - Asstd. Barcode Readers; CANON Laser Encoder Motors; Aluminum Ladders Aluminum Ladders; Notice Boards; Plastic Storage Bins, Stainless Steel Thrash Cans; Asstd. Packaging Materials; Asstd. Stationary; Hand Pallet Truck; Asstd. Equipment Trolleys, etc

AT: FILSYN COMPOUND, STA. ROSA, LAGUNA
ON: FRIDAY 31ST MAY 2002- 1:00PM PROMPT
ON VIEW: FRIDAY 31ST MAY 2002 - 9:00AM - 1:00PM
REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT: Php20,000.00 (Upon Registration)

FOR NEGOTIATED SALE
SUPERB CUMMINS 1500KW GENERATOR
(Cummins Factory Rebuilt - 2001, since unused)

CUMMINS 6-Cylinder Diesel Engine
Leroy Somer 1500 Kw (1875 KVA) Alternator (Unused)
4160 Volt; 1800 Rpm; 60 Hz

HENRY BUTCHER
Industrial Auctioneers & Valuers

HENRY BUTCHER INTERNATIONAL PHILS. INC.
102 Ground Floor, Jolliland Bldg., 670 EDSA, Pasay City
Tel: (63-2)-852 2910 * 11 Fax: (63-2)-831-8607
E-mail: manila@henrybutcher.com
www.henrybutcher.com

GIA
THAILAND CAMPUS

Gemological Institute of America
Learn about Gems and Jewelry

From the world's foremost authority in gemology
70 year history of excellence in education
over 300,000 students worldwide

GIA Graduate Gemologist Diploma
the most recognized gemological credential

Thailand is a world center for gems and jewelry
For professional training at the source

GIA Thailand Campus
Tel: (662) 237-9575 to 77
giathai@ksc15.th.com
Fax: (662) 236-9829
www.giathailand.com

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE/FEMALE

Wanted
REGISTERED
MED-TECHNOLOGIST
CALL-044-8400019

PUBLIC NOTICES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Bar & Billiards w/ 2BR + TB Calumpang 0917-8143792

•Travel N Earn From Home•
earn-and-travel.com
8531008 (0917)8101651

Earn From Home w/ Travel
295-2107 • 0917-8135609

Earn From Home w/ Travel
817-0524 • 0917-9200176

GREAT NEWS ! IF UR NOT EARNING OVER 200T/m @ UR PRSNT NETWRK BUS. LETS TALK NOW 8072359 RESH

I MADE P500,000.00/mo
Needs People To Train
Tel.# 536-8322

JUICE DRINK MAKING BUSS. TRAINING, RAW MAT'LS. AVAIL. 2554643 2554644 2553584

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the management of **Hi-Tech Business Associates Pte. Ltd.** has resolved to close its operations in the Philippines effective **March 1, 2002.**

This notice is in compliance with the requirements of SEC.

Janssen Dimalanta
Resident Agent

(PDI - May 28, June 4 & 11, 2002)

PUBLIC NOTICES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

KAPITOLYO 4BR / 2TB + Ind Unit - P13M Vic 631-9792 687-0963 • 0917-5319792

Teens, Adults Wear 3738821

Travel & Earn From Home 02-6870963 / 0917-5319792

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late JOAQUIN VITOR was extrajudicially settled by their heirs per Doc# 472 Book#10 Page#96 Series of 1987 Notary Public Reynaldo Bernardo of Rizal PD1 5-21,28 6-4, 2002

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is hereby given that AYALA CORP CERT. Nos. 3077, 14738, 27410, 7214695, 7223807, 7216327 issued to Maria Catherine T. Corda & Dannel R. Alejandrino have been lost. If no contest received new certificate will be issued.
(PDI-May 14, 21 & 28, 2002)

PERSONAL

NOVENA TO SACRED HEART AND SAINT JUDE

May the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus be praised, blessed, loved, adored and glorified thruout the whole world now & forever. Amen.
Most Sacred Heart of Jesus pray for us. St. Jude Worker of Miracles, pray for us. Say 9x a day for 9 days. Prayer will be answered by 8th day.
TY-LBE

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8972535 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 8974808
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6372008 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5280183 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

OBITUARIES

YORK (U.S.A.) CASKETS
... because they deserve only the best.
*For more information, please call your funeral director

In Loving Memory

on the
First Death Anniversary
of

JOSELITA "JOSIE" CRUZ MAGCASE

(4 February 1940 - 29 May 2001)

Holy Masses will be offered at the following churches
on May 29, 2002

St. Andrew the Apostle Parish, Bel-Air, Makati	6:30 AM 6:30 PM
St. James the Great, Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa	6:20 AM
Sto. Niño de Paz Chapel, Greenbelt, Makati	7:15 AM
Immaculate Conception Parish, Lantana, Cubao, Q.C.	6:00 AM
Shrine of Mary Help of Christian, Better Living, Parañaque	6:00 AM
Immaculate Conception Parish, Tayuman, Tondo, Manila	6:00 AM
National Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes, Kanlaon, Q.C.	5:30 AM
Holy Family Parish, Bo. Kapitolyo, Pasig City	6:00 AM
Immaculate Conception Parish, Sta. Cruz, Laguna	6:00 AM
Parish of St. Paul the 1st Hermit, San Pablo City	6:45 AM
National Shrine of St. Ann, Hagonoy, Bulacan	6:00 AM
St. John the Baptist Parish, San Juan, Hagonoy, Bulacan	7:30 AM
Basilica Minore of the Immaculate Conception, Malolos, Bulacan	6:00 AM
Basilica of Our Lady of Peñafrancia, Naga City	6:00 AM
Our Lady of Peñafrancia Shrine, Naga City	7:00 AM
Carmelite Monastery, Naga City	6:00 AM

Divine Word Missionaries, Epping Rd. Epping NSW 2121 Australia

The Family requests relatives, friends and pious readers to join them in praying for the eternal repose of her soul.

REYMUNDA SANTIAGO MENDOZA, 91

widow of the late **TIMOTEO B. MENDOZA**

Peacefully joined her Creator
on 25 May 2002.

Her bereaved children **ESMERALDO & HELEN, AMELIA, ANDREW & MARGARET**, and **EMELYN & MANUEL**; grandchildren, nieces, nephews, other relatives, request the pious readers to pray for her eternal happiness.

Her remains lie in state at Arlington Memorial Chapels, Araneta Avenue, Quezon City. Tel. Nos. 715-1025 to 28.

Interment will be in New Washington, Aklan, 01 June.

Our Dearly Beloved

ARTHUR SAHAGUN MARCELINO

from Sacramento, California, U.S.A.

Peacefully joined our Lord on May 25, 2002
at the age of 53.

His loving wife **VIRGINIA PASION MARCELINO**; children **ARTHUR JR., JONATHAN, JENNIFER** and **JESSEL**; grandchildren request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the residence at B-49, L-15 Malakas at Maganda Streets, Lagro Subdivision, Novaliches, Quezon City.

Interment will be at Holy Cross Memorial Park. (To be announced later) for further details, please contact tel. no. 936-7445.

FELIZA ANGELES MARTINEZ

of Bongabon, Nueva Ecija

Peacefully joined our Lord on the 26th day of May 2002 at the age of 76.

Her beloved husband **Jose**; children **Noli & Jesus Balingit**, **Tessie & Virgilio Ferrer**, **Mila & Eddie Calivo**, **Junior & Linda**, **Cynthia & Vic Mateo**, **Julie & Tony Yuson**, **Vee & Bobby Galvez**, **Jerry & Ruth**, **Hector**, **Neneth**, **Josie & Ray Herrera**; grandchildren, great grandchildren, sister-in-law **Yayang Martinez-Moza**, and other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Holy Trinity Chapel, Sucat Road, Parañaque City.

Interment will be on Thursday, May 30, 2002 at 9:30 a.m. at the Loyola Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque City.

Fernando "Oscar" V. Sucuangco

Peacefully joined our Creator
on May 26, 2002 at the age of 66.

His loving wife **Baby**; children **Erick & Lan-Lan**, **Nene & Marco**; grandchildren **Mikha, Abu, Giging, Xyla & Apel**; request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at St. Peter's Memorial Chapel, Quezon Avenue, Quezon City and later to be transferred to Cabanatuan City on May 30, 2002.

Interment will be announced later.

The Board of Directors, Officers and Staff of
Cherub Manpower, Inc.
Veraluz International Corporation
Veraluz Foundation, Inc.

announce with deep regret the demise of

DOÑA LUZ DE VERA y JIMENEZ

Founder & Chairman Emeritus of Cherub Manpower, Inc.
Founder, Chairman & President of Veraluz International Corporation
Founder, Chairman & President of Veraluz Foundation, Inc.

Who peacefully joined her Creator
on Sunday, May 26, 2002 at the age of 71.

Her remains lie in state at Fr. J. Willman SJ Suite, Holy Trinity Memorial Chapels, Dr. A. Santos Avenue, Sucat, Parañaque City.

Interment will be on Thursday, May 30, 2002 at Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque City, after the 10:00 o'clock a.m. Mass.

The pious readers are requested to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

In lieu of flowers, donations are requested to be made to Veraluz Foundation, Inc.

Our Dearly Beloved Nanay

Doña Luz De Vera y Jimenez

Died in the Grace of our Lord
on May 26, 2002 at the age of 71.

Her loving children **Edgar** & **Cora**; **Emmanuel**; **Enrico** (†); **Ernesto**; **Linda** & **Ivan Jovan**; **Elisa**; **Raul Jr.** & **Chona**; grandchildren **Cleo**, **Christopher**, **Luis Emmanuel**, **Maila**, **Fernando**, **Monica**, **Sebastian**, **Ralph Benedict**, **Patricia**, **Hannah Beatrice**, and **Alemy**; relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Fr. J. Willmann SJ Suite, Holy Trinity Memorial Chapels, Dr. A. Santos Avenue, Sucat, Parañaque City.

Interment will be on Thursday, May 30, 2002 at Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque City, after the 10:00 o'clock a.m. Mass.

ELEAZAR "ELY" M. ABOLOC, SR.

(1927 - 2002)

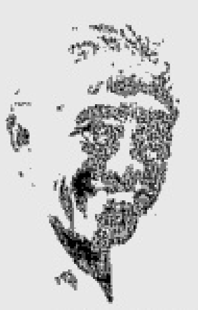
Died May 04, 2002 at the age of 75.

Survived by his wife **Luzvilla G. Aboloc**; loving children and in-laws **Jojie & Elmer**; **Eleaville & Timmy**; **Luzar & Jovie**; **Jongjong** and **Maima**; grandchildren **Annaliz, Ariel** and **Jokjok**, relatives [illegible] friends sincerely thank everyone for their prayers and condolences.

Thank You!

For your Classified Ads requirements, call our Classifieds Advertising Hotlines:

HEAD OFFICE: 897-8808 loc. 514, 516; 899-4425; 897-2535; 897-8425 (Telefax)
CUBAO: 912-9008 to 11 (Aurora)
MAKATI: 892-5578; 811-4361; 811-4370
KALAW: 528-0213; 527-3342
MEGAMALL: 635-0219; 635-0220



TENTH DEATH ANNIVERSARY

LORENZO M. TAÑADA

August 10, 1898 - May 28, 1992

As we lovingly remember him today, we celebrate a "life that was wholeheartedly devoted to upholding his country's nationhood," and we recall some words of wisdom from him.

"Raise that flag and raise it high and see in its beloved colors, the true meaning of our national unity, that meaning that, higher than party and self-interest, is a supreme entity - the Filipino people, to whom our love, loyalty and sacrifice are pledged forever."

LORENZO M. TAÑADA

Please say a prayer for the eternal repose of his soul.

CRISOLOGO CAPILI CABRERA

Peacefully joined his Creator
on Sunday, May 26, 2002 at the age of 55.

His loving wife **Raquel**; son **Gerald**; daughters **Josephine** & **Cristine Joie**; mother **Nelia**; brothers and sisters **Eduardo, Enone & Oscar**; relatives and friends mourn his passing and request the pious readers to offer prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Mahinhin corner Mayumi Streets, UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Thursday, May 30, 2002 at the Holy Cross Memorial Park, Novaliches after the 9:00 AM at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish.

Carlos Solis Arellano

Has peacefully joined
our Creator on May 27, 2002
at the age of 66.

His remains lie in state at St. Claire Chapel, Holy Trinity Memorial Chapels at Sucat Road, Parañaque City.

Interment will be on May 30, 2002, 9:00 a.m. at Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City.

DOMINGO CALDERON CALONGE

of Sto. Tomas, La Union, Cubao, Quezon City
and California, U.S.A.

joined by his Creator on May 20, 2002 at the age of 85.

His wife Dominadora Villar; children Guadalupe, Bibiana and Pedro Romarnog, Diosdado and Demetria, Victoria, Violeta, Eulalio and Rose, Hermenegilda, and Julius; sister Fortunata Agasen; grandchildren and other relatives request the pious readers to pray for his eternal rest.

His remains lie in state at St. Joseph Parish, Camp Crame, Quezon City.

Interment will be on June 2, 2002 at Ever Memorial Garden, Lawang Bato, Valenzuela City after the 8:00 a.m. Mass

---

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life."
John 3:16

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

INQUIRER OBITUARIES

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT   MESSAGE OF THANKS   DEATH ANNIVERSARY   REQUIEMS   FREE OBIT DESIGN

For the needs of your departed Loved Ones, the following establishments can help you.

ARLINGTON MEMORIAL CHAPEL
12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City Tels. 715-1025; 715-1031; 715-1027
ARLINGTON EAST THE GARDEN CHAPELS
C. Raymundo St. cor. Mercedes Ave., San Miguel Ave., Pasig City
Tels. 747-8599, 747-8609 • Telefax 641-1760
AUREA QUIOGUE FUNERAL HOMES
243 A.B. Fernandez Ave., Dagupan City, Pangasinan
Tels. (0785) 522-3451, 522-2128, (0917) 434-9976
CAPITOL MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
1305 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City; Tel. 732-0309; 732-1095
CEBU ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
Cebu Branch A.S. Fortuna Street, Banilad, Mandaue City, Cebu; Tels. 346-2543; 346-2601
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Nivel Hills, Lahug, Cebu City. Tels. 231-0721, 231-3192
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Camus Ext. cor. J. Abad Santos, Davao City. Tels. (082) 227-1201; 227-1258
DAYAO FUNERAL HOME
#2 Bayani St., Galas, Quezon City; Tels. 740-2683; 781-3705; 781-3688; 413-9400; 715-5594
DALLUAY MEMORIAL SERVICES
#42 Upper Kalaklan, Olongapo City
Tels. (047) 222-3605, (047) 811-1086; (047) 222-4512; (047) 224-2014
DON BOSCO CHAPELS
Pasay Road, Makati City. Tel. 894-5932 to 34
DULCE MEMORIAL SERVICES
Jose Abad Santos Ave. cor. Dinalupihan St., Manuguit, Manila
Tels. 712-5102, 741-5125, 741-5133; Fax No. 711-3064
FLORESCO FUNERAL HOME
219 Gen. Luna St., Concepcion, Malabon, Metro Manila: Tels. 2812863; 2813034; 2810522
FUNERARIA PANGILINAN
Santo Entierro cor. P. Burgos St., Lourdes Sur, Angeles City
Tels. (045) 888-2959, (045) 322-5247
PAKET SANTIAGO MEMORIAL HOMES
13 V. Gomez St., San Roque, Marikina City. Tels. 646-1725; 646-1730
FUNERARIA ANGEL QUIOGUE
No. 67 Pasig Boulevard Extension, Pasig City; Tels. 641-7909; 641-1735
M. Almeda St., Pateros, Metro Manila; Tels. 642-3010; 633-3602
FUNERARIA FILIPINAS
187 Real St., Zapote Alabang, Las Piñas; Tels. 873-0507; 873-0024
FUNERARIA FILIPINAS
865 J.P. Rizal St., Poblacion, Makati City; Tels. 890-3556; 899-8191
FUNERARIA TUASON
Poblacion, San Miguel, Bulacan 3011; Tels. (044) 764-0281; 678-0266; (0917) 895-0603
FUNERARIA SAMSON
145 Bayan Luma, Imus, Cavite; Tels. (046) 471-3375; 471-2675
GARDEN OF MEMORIES MEMORIAL PARK
Calsadang Bago, Pateros, Metro Manila; Tels. 642-6181 to 82
HERITAGE PARK
Bayani Road, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila
Tels. (DL) 845-2341 to 42; (TL) 845-2334 to 38 loc. 110/112

HOLY TRINITY MEMORIAL CHAPELS
Sucat, Parañaque City. Tels. 825-1296, 825-1291
LA FUNERARIA LAWRENCE BAQUIRAN
#27 Crisologo St., Vigan, Ilocos Sur
Tel. 722-2730; Cell (0917) 5680136; (0917) 5680145
Manila #23 Pato St., Project 2, Quezon City; Tel. 434-3258
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
1501 C.M. Recto Ave. cor. T. Mapua, Manila; Tels. 711-6931 to 35, 732-4795, 732-2827
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
143 G. Araneta Ave. cor. Kaliraya St., Quezon City
Tels. 749-3806 to 11; 712-3001; 743-6502 or 05
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
79 Naguilian Rd., Baguio City; Tel. (074) 443-3337, (074) 442-3117
LA FUNERARIA SAPINOSO
G. Tirona St., Imus, Cavite; Tels. (046) 471-3386; (046) 471-4417; (046) 571-1978
LOYOLA MEMORIAL CHAPELS
EDSA cor. Bernardino St., Guadalupe, Makati City. Tels. 895-1011 to 19
LOYOLA MEMORIAL PARK CHAPELS & CREMATORY SERVICES
Loyola Memorial Park, A. Bonifacio Avenue, Tañong, Marikina City
Tels. 941-3196 to 98, 941-3676, Telefax 941-3577
MARIAN MEMORIAL CHAPELS
Marcos Hiway, Antipolo, Rizal; Tels. 645-1855, 682-0209, 682-0210
MT. SINAI MEMORIAL CHAPEL
Arellano St., Dagupan City; Tels. (075) 515-5960; 515-6529, 522-8783, (0919) 348-7131
NACIONAL MEMORIAL HOMES
264 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City; Tels. 713-5231 to 35, 714-0867, 714-0868
POPULAR MEMORIAL CHAPELS, INC.
214 Rizal Ave., Sta. Cruz, Manila. Tel. Nos. 254-0867, 254-0839
ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
Ground Flr. Rolling Hills Chapel, 27th-Lacson St., Mandalagan, Bacolod City. Tel. 433-7132
RIZAL FUNERAL HOMES
438 Cementina St., Pasay City. Tels. 831-1204
Sucat Branch: 8187 Dr. A. Santos Ave., Sucat, Parañaque City
Tels. 826-1376, 826-9682, (0915) 712-1220
SANTUARIO DE SAN ANTONIO PARISH
Forbes Park, Makati City. Tel. Nos. 843-8838/30, Fax No. 843-9223
SANTUARIO DE SAN JOSE PARISH
East Greenhills, Mandaluyong City. Telefax 724-4139, 725-2044
ST. ALPHONSUS MARY DE LIGOURI PARISH
Magallanes Village, Makati City. Tels. 852-6228, 852-7284
ST. MARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL
16-15 G. Tuazon cor. Loreto St., Sampaloc, Manila. Tels. 749-3679; 781-1772
ST. PETER FUNERAL HOMES
295 Quezon Ave., Quezon City. Tels. 372-5084, 410-9286 87
VERONICA MEMORIAL HOMES
Official NBI Morgue 517-A Arnaiz St., Pasay City; Tels. 831-3797, 844-7846, 843-1801, 845-4836
WELINGTON FUNERAL SERVICES
1511 Gen. Luna St., Paco, Manila. Tels. 522-8846, 522-9438, 400-5394

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS: ❶ Copy of Death Certificate ❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS and bank-to-bank payments

CLASSIFIEDS

Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President
Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council
HOUSING AND LAND USE REGULATORY BOARD

INVITATION TO BID

The Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board (HLURB) invites direct Internet Service Providers ISP to a public bidding for the **PROVISION OF 128 kbps or DSL INTERNET SERVICES CONNECTION** on **June 21, 2002** at exactly 2:00 PM Board Room, HLURB Building, Kalayaan Avenue corner Mayaman Street, Diliman, Quezon City.

Bid forms and instructions are available during office hours at the MIS Division, Second Floor, HLURB Building, Kalayaan Avenue corner Mayaman Street, Diliman, Quezon City.

Request for Clarification and other inquiries may be addressed to the said office in writing or in person before **June 7, 2002** at 2:00 PM thru Telephone No. 927-2731 or Fax No. 927-2698.

HLURB reserves the right to reject any or all bids to waive any required formalities in the bids and to accept such bids, which are advantageous to the Government.

(Sgd.) **FRANCISCO L. DAGÑALAN**
Commissioner and Chairman,
Awards & Contracts Review Committee

(PDI -- May 28, 29 & 30, 2002)

Republic of the Philippines
MANILA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
Ninoy Aquino International Airport, Metro Manila

INVITATION FOR CONSULTING SERVICES

The Manila International Airport Authority (MIAA) invites eligible Filipino consulting firms duly registered with the Department of Trade and Industry or the Securities and Exchange Commission for the purpose of drawing a long list from which a selection shall be made for the provision of consulting services for the **Lotus Notes Consultancy** for the Manila International Airport Authority.

The selected Consultant who shall be screened and evaluated by the MIAA Prequalification, Evaluation and Award Committee (MIAA-PEAC) in accordance with procedures of the NEDA Guidelines on the Procurement of Consulting Services for Government Projects (Implementing Rules and Regulations of Executive Order No. 164), shall be responsible in providing the MIAA with the perspective and guidance for the actual use of Lotus Notes application systems and maximize the full potential of Lotus Notes. It is therefore a must that the Consultant is currently authorized by IBM Phils., Inc., and has extensive Lotus Notes development expertise and certified training capabilities.

Consultants who wish to offer their services are requested to express their desire to do so and submit an official letter of intent together with their duly accomplished and notarized prequalification statements, as provided under Appendix A of the NEDA Guidelines, not later than **June 7, 2002** at the Pavements and Grounds Division, MIAA Engineering Building, MIA Road, Pasay City during official business hours only. Prequalification Forms may also be secured from the Pavements and Grounds Division Office from **May 29 to June 4, 2002**.

(Sgd.) **ELPIDIO L. MENDOZA**
Chairman
MIAA-PEAC

(PDI - May 28 & June 3, 2002)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Science and Technology
ADVANCED SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE
U.P. Technology Park Complex, C.P. Garcia Avenue
Diliman, Quezon City, 1101 Philippines
Phone: 435-1050 FAX: 435-1057
E-mail: info@asti.dost.gov.ph

INVITATION TO BID

The ADVANCED SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE (ASTI) is inviting Dealers/Suppliers for the supply of the following:

Eight (8) Links Frame Relay/Leased Line with the following specifications:

- **256 kbps CIR; burstible to 512 kbps**
- **24 hours hotline assistance**
- **1 year service**

Opening of bids will be on **May 30, 2002, 2:00 p.m.** at ASTI Building, C.P. Garcia Avenue, U.P. Campus, Diliman, Quezon City. Bidding documents may be obtained from ASTI or call Millet D. Pedro at tel. no. 435-1050 for more details.

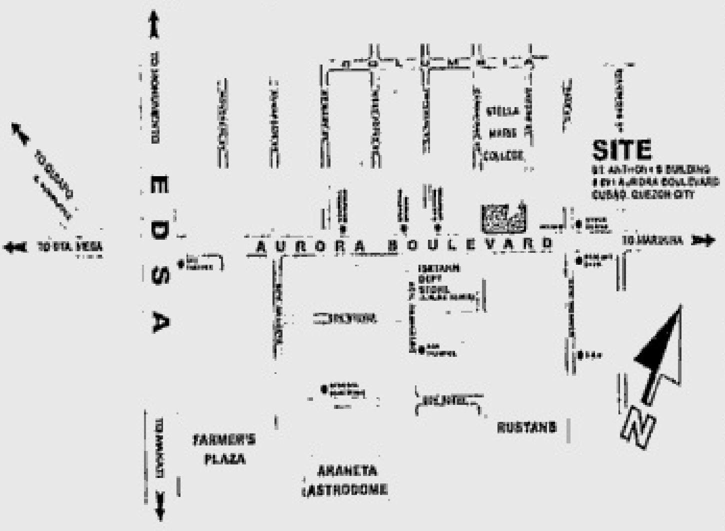
In case of failure of bidding due to insufficient number of participating and responsive bidders, **a re-bidding shall automatically be rescheduled one week** after the announcement of a failure of bid.

(Sgd.) **JESUS C. MANIO**
Chairman, BAC

(PDI--May 28, 2002)

INQUIRER CLASSIFIEDS

Aurora branch is now open to serve your
Classified Ads requirements.
For inquiries, please call **912-9008** to **11**.



INQUIRER
TRiViA
By BONG BARRAMEDA

Japan's Sun

Q. Why is the Japanese flag so designed?

A. The sun appears on a number of national flag (including ours), the most famous being the 'Sun Disk' of Japan. It represents both the name of the country (in Japanese the country's name is *Dai*, "great," *Nihon* or *Nippon*, "origin of the sun,", hence, "Land of the Rising Sun"), and the religious belief that the emperor is a direct descendant of the sun goddess Amaterasu.

For the Record. A simple mistake in translation may have been responsible for a catastrophic change in the course of world history. It occured in Japan during the last days of July 1945 when the Allies had issued an ultimatum for Japan's unconditional surrender. Emperor Hirohito, who had already send peace feelers, was disposed to accept it but needed the full support of his cabinet. Only July 28 the Japanese premier announced to the press that the cabinet would follow a policy of *mokusatsu*—a word that has no exact equivalent in English but can mean either 'to ignore' or 'to refrain from comment.' The second meaning is the one that was intended, but the translation supplied by the Japanese Domei News Agency used the term 'ignore.' *The New York Times* ran a banner headline that read: "Fleet Strikes As Tokyo 'Ignores' Terms." Nine days later an atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima.

WORD WATCH

Balabag : from the Malay *belebak*, 'spear, lance, harpoon.'

PDI -- May 22, 2002

Where you find the best.

VISIT US AT
www.jobmarketonline.com

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
JOBMarket
ONLINE

People, Events & Products

Aries Espinosa, Editor aespinosa@inquirer.com.ph

Global standard tests measured

GRADUATING college students, particularly those taking up education courses, must take note of a recent study that revealed their English language proficiency at only the level of basic working proficiency. This particular level of proficiency indicated that the person "hardly understands native English speakers, or speakers of English in international meetings, nor could they sustain fluency and accuracy, or discuss topics of general interest using non-elaborate structures."

The study, conducted by HA Cervantes Knowledge Systems Inc., the Philippine-based firm which administers the Test of English for International Communicatio (Toeic), took sample measurements of graduating students of 2002 from selected educational institutions in Metro Manila. Toeic is a global standard of English proficiency measurement developed by the Educational Testing Service (ETS) located in Princeton, New Jersey. It reveals how the English proficiency of the examinee stands against the international benchmark.

Dr. Hermelo Cervantes, Hacksi chief executive consultant, stressed that the study showed why many Filipinos fail to obtain foreign jobs that require passing English proficiency certification tests. "That is why no one knows how the English proficiency of Filipinos stands against the global standard, not until now," Cervantes said.

Free copies of the Hacksi study will be given to business schools and educational institutions, including private sector and government entities upon request. Call 633-7734, 636-6964, and through HA Cervantes Knowledge Systems Inc., 4th floor of the AB Sandoval Building, Oranbo Drive corner Shaw Boulevard, Pasig City.

NATIONAL LAW FIRM 2001 WINNER

The law firm of Sycip Salazar Hernandez and Gatmaitan recently won the award National Law Firm of 2001 for the Philippines from the International Financial Law Review (FLR) Awards for Asian Legal Deals of the Year 2001 in formal rites held at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Hong Kong. The Manila North Tollways Project, wherein the firm was involved as legal counsel to the international lenders led by ADB, IFC and other multilateral credit institutions, was given the award Asian Deal of the Year 2001 in Project Finance, beating eight other nominees in Asia. Shown after the awards presentation are, from left, lawyers Rocky Reyes, Rene Soriano, Cirilo Tolosa, Marievic Añonuevo, Llewellyn Llanillo, administrative and finance director Lilia Yang, managing partner/lawyer Andres Gatmaitan, Asuncion Gatmaitan, Lourdes Tapia-Tolosa and lawyer Angelito Imperio.

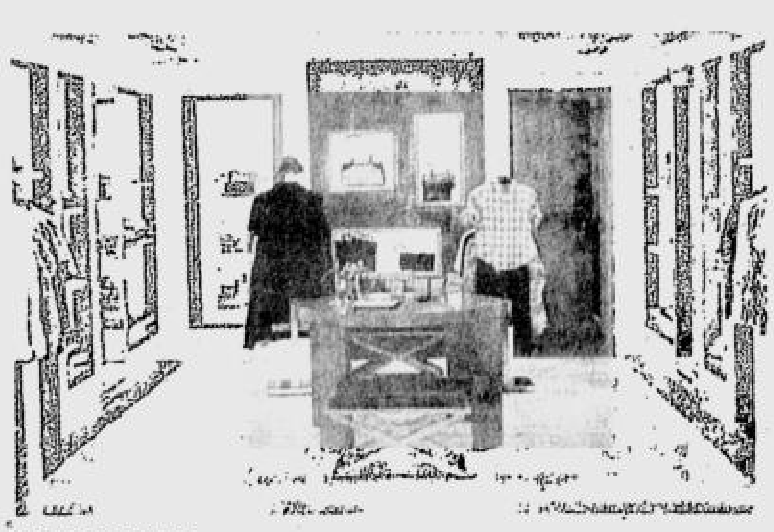
Annual
Parangal ng Bayan

MOST OUTSTANDING MOUTHWASH

The National Consumers Council has named Astring-O-Sol as the Most Outstanding Mouthwash Brand in the country during the 17th Annual Parangal ng Bayan Awards—the country's biggest and pioneer tribute event. The Parangal ng Bayan Awards Foundation confers honor not only to products and companies but also to outstanding Filipino achievers in sports, education, business, arts, and entertainment in recognition of their exemplary services to the public. Astring-O-Sol is a product of GlaxoSmithKline (GSK), one of the leading multinational companies in pharmaceuticals. Shown receiving the award from Sen, Robert Barbers is Deza Tolentino, product manager for Astring-O-Sol Ice. Also shown are (from left) Ma. Victoria C. Dizon, president of ET Dizon Travel & Tours, Rev. Dr. Sonia Y. Lim, president of Dove Foundation, Ambassador Barry S. Gusi of Northern Marianas, Lily Nicolas, secretary-general of the Consumers Union of the Philippines, and Jonathan Navea, president of the Parangal ng Bayan Foundation.

GMA NETWORK PRESIDENT'S MEDAL

The first winners of the GMA Network Inc. President's Medal for Outstanding Broadcast Communication and Journalism Students were announced during the graduation ceremony of the University of the Philippines College of Mass Communication held recently at the UP Film Center. Mary Grace Gayoso (Broadcast Communication) and Mark Isaiah David (Journalism) were picked by the panel of judges composed of professors from UP Masscom and representatives from GMA Network out of 9 finalists as the recipients of the GMA Network Inc.'s President's Medal, the first award given by the network that recognizes the outstanding performance of students as well as the important role of universities in preparing them for their careers. Gayoso, right, receives the GMA Network President's Medal and P10,000 from GMA Network executive vice president and chief operating officer Gilberto R. Duavit Jr. (left) while guest of honor Sen. Loren Legarda looks on.



MAKEOVER

THE EVER-popular Burberry Boutique at Fashion Walk has made some renovations, and now calls itself the Burberry Image Boutique.

Noritake bodega sale at Philtrade

THE NORITAKE Bodega Sale goes to Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City.

Jojo Quinga of the marketing and special sales department said the bodega sale at Hall 8, Philippine Trade Center across the Department of Foreign Affairs, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City offers a good location, more designs but priced the same as the Marikina plant and with discounts of up to 70 percent.

Among the variety of designs are ardmore gold platinum, crestwood gold, cobalt blue, and platinum. Stocks are replenished every day. Quinga urged shoppers to buy early to get complete sets. Big bargains on plainwhite plates with China quality can be had for as low as P20 per piece.

Also available are hotel and restaurant plates, plainwhite dinner plates, salad plates, soup plates, platters, cups, and consumer bowls at giveaway discounts of up to 80 percent.

Quinga said Noritake plates are ideal gifts for weddings, anniversaries, birthdays and other special occasions. Shoppers can also start early for their Christmas gifts to avoid the rush.

The sale is ongoing until June 16. The hall is open everyday including Saturdays and Sundays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. For further inquiries, call the Marikina plant at 948-4876, or call 0917-8480612.

BITS Clips

SWI-Pasay celebrates 4

SLIMMERS World International-Pasay Road Branch celebrates its 4th anniversary today, May 28. The anniversary celebration kicks off with a morning motorcade in Makati City and continues up to midnight in a More@Four Party where big discounts on programs and services await clients and guests. At 6 p.m., SWI Pasay Road goes coco loco as male and female clients clad in super sexy Caribbean attire test their strength, endurance, and body coordinating skills in an exciting 120-minute aerobics marathon competition. For more details, call 887-1336.

Aquarellists' 1st exhibit

THE AQUARELLISTS opened its first exhibit for this year dubbed "Kulay Mula sa Puso" on May 27 at the lobby of the Philippine Heart Center, East Avenue, Quezon City, and runs until June 8. The exhibit features vibrant paintings of lush landscapes, breathtaking seascapes, fresh flowers, festive food, and fascinating figures. The Aquarellists, founded in 1999 by a small group of friends in Marikina, is a group of artists whose medium is watercolor and other water-based paints. On Saturdays, the group can be found trekking for out-of-town painting sessions in Laguna, Batangas, Cavite, Pampanga. It also paints at the heart of Quezon City—the Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife. The group is composed of 20 active members, with Cesar del Mundo and Nik Masangkay as its president and vice president, respectively. Other members are Ernie Patricio, Domeng Labordo, Vic Duldulao, Bong Gojar, Erwin Sabio, and Bong Sunga. New members are Romeo Vicencio, Alon de Guzman, Haezel Pensa and Robert Deniega.

Product FILES

Before that last summer hurrah

THIS SUMMER, all roads lead to one place, the Coleman Store. It's where you will find the essential gear for a foolproof summer get-together—be it at the beach, in the mountains, or even just within the comfort of your own backyard. From Coleman jugs and coolers to tents, sleeping bags, outdoor flashlights, barbeque grills, and even canoes, the Coleman store offers just about everything to guarantee the perfect outing for any family.

This summer, for a minimum product purchase, the Coleman Store offers the perfect Coleman cap or bush hat to match your summer getup. Visit any of the four Coleman store branches at SM Megamall (5th floor, Building B, 634-0648), Robinsons Galleria (2nd floor, expansion mall, 632-9145), Park Square 1 Makati (ground floor, 892-7854), and Alabang Town Center (3rd floor, 850-7854). For more inquiries, e-mail colemanstore@pacific.net.ph.

INFONXX OPENS CALL CENTER

US-based Infonxx, a leading global provider of an enhanced directory assistance services, chooses the Philippines to house its first call center in the Asian region as it formally inaugurates its Manila office on May 29. Robert Pines, CEO and co-founder of Infonxx, will visit the country during the launch. The newest Infonxx call center is located at the RCBC Plaza Tower II in Makati City. The Philippine call center will augment the existing Infonxx centers in the United States. US callers seeking telephone numbers and enhanced information services such as movie listings, stock quotes, sports scores, weather reports and even restaurant recommendations will be assisted by Infonxx's highly trained Filipino customer service representatives. Shown is the Infonxx Philippine team (back row, from right) Lois Ann Bumgarner, director of Philippine operations, Jeff Blake, general manager, Joanna Lim, assistant call center manager, with local CSRs. Infonxx employs more than 2,500 people in seven global locations.

Lex Talionis testimonial, fellowship dinner

THE LEX Talionis Fraternitas Inc., the premiere and the most prestigious fraternal organization of the San Beda College of Law, and Ateneo de Davao College of Law will hold a testimonial and fellowship dinner on May 31 at 6:30 p.m. at the historic Club Filipino in honor of its members who passed the Bar exams given by the Supreme Court last year.

The successful examinees to be feted is led by Talion Dante Bravo who landed in the 10th place, together with Talions Giovanne T. Lim, Jesus Christopher Belandres, Rey Bulay, Paulino Ungos III, Eric Lazo, Marvin Pulido, and Vincent Villena.

Lawyer Alfredo C. Lim, chair of the Council of Grand Judex, and grand Judex Jhoriel Castillo announced that prominent members of the fraternity from the public and private sectors former Ambassador to United Arab Emirates and now chair of the National Labor Relations Commission Roy Señeres, Rep. Roy Pilando of Benguet, Justice of the Court of Appeals Bienvenido L. Reyes, Sandiganbayan Justice Gregory Ong, Davao City mayor Rodrigo Duterte, former Commissioner of Immigration Zafiro Respicio, BID Commissioner Arthel Caronongan, director Galant Soriano of the legal department of the Bureau of Customs, director Emil Aquino of the SEC, Quezon City Regional Trial Court Judge Jose Mendoza, RTC Judges from Manila Rodolfo Ponferrada and Antonio Eugenio, Judge Florencio Bueser of Laguna, Judge Maximo Ratunil of Iligan City, RTC Judges Emmanual Carpio and Jose Emmanuel Castillo of Davao City, Pasig Prosecutor Jacinto Ang, Malabon City Prosecutor Jun Catalan, Provincial Board members Mar Bernales and Manuel Llaguno of Camarines Sur, mayor Alex Bernales of Bucay, Abra, mayor Alex Belenaof San Jose City, Nueva Ecija, Provincial Board member Alvin Morando of Laguna and councilor Francis Tiñio of Binalonan, Pangasinan are expected to attend the occasion.

For details, call lawyer Joel Ferrer at 372-3131 to 32, Jhoriel Castillo at 780-0291, 0919-5598002, or Abraham Siu at 736-5639, 0917-6613520.

Effective marketing at TLRC

AS PRODUCTS and services elbow each other out vying for consumer attention, marketing becomes crucial for the profitability, or even survival, of businesses. It becomes vital, therefore, for manufacturers and service providers to employ effective marketing techniques to ensure for themselves a niche in the minds of the buying public. Effective techniques are discussed in the seminar on Entrepreneurial Marketing slated on May 29 and 30, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Technology and Livelihood Resource Center. Resource person is Bam Disimulacion, marketing consultant and businesswoman. Topics include marketing as a means of adding profits and customers, entrepreneurial marketing, strategy, research, business evaluation, relationships and business penetration. For details, call TLRC at 633-5709 or 633-6728, or visit TLRC at Unit 805, 8th floor of the CityState Centre Building, 709 Shaw Boulevard (near the Rizal Provincial Capitol Circle), Pasig City.

REALESTATE

Editor **Cesar D. Mangawang**

COLLIERS INT'L Q1 REPORT

RP favors affordable high-rise residences

By Charles E. Buban

HIGH-RISE residences packaged around P3 million are riding on favorable winds nowadays as the local market appears to favor them over its more expensive counterparts. In the quarterly research report submitted by Colliers International, smaller units like studios and single-bedroom units continue to outperform luxury three-bedroom units at the Makati Central Business District.

The report, which covers the first quarter of 2002, said the strong showing of affordable high-rise residences is very evident in several projects. Barely two weeks from the launch, Megaworld was able to block off 74 units or 43 percent in the first tower of its Forbeswoods Heights project.

Launched during the first quarter of 2002, One Legazpi Park of Ayala Land is similarly successful by blocking off 150 units or 41 percent. Rockwell Land's Manansala is also 20 percent sold (120 units).

Demand for smaller units

Responding to the growing market demand for smaller units, 50 percent of One Legazpi Park is alloted to single-bedroom units. Twenty-five percent is allocated to two-bedroom units and the remaining 4 percent, to three-bedroom units. Various units ranging from studio to three bedrooms are being offered with sizes starting from 40 sq. m to as much as 169 sq. m for a bi-level three-bedroom unit.

The selling price for the unit starts at P3.5 million. A 25-percent discount is offered for cash buyers, while flexible payment terms have been arranged for those who opt for a deferred payment scheme. The One Legazpi Park, located on Rada Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City is scheduled for completion by January 2006.

Riding on the success of Paseo Parkview, Greenbelt Radissons and Greenbelt Parkplace, Megaworld followed them up by launching Forbeswood Heights. The project located in the West Crescent Park district inside the Bonifacio Global City is a joint venture with Bonifacio West Development Corp.

The project will consist of six 16-story towers. The first of the series will comprise 172 residential units—57 percent, studio units; 42 percent, single-bedroom units; and the rest, two-bedroom units. The selling price starts at P2.4 million for a 36.5-sq.-m studio unit.

Success factors

The Colliers International report gave several reasons the market is responding positively to these types of project: brand name, affordability and location. The reason One Legazpi Park has registered good take-up is partly attributed to Ayala Land's reputable name, according to the report. Burned from experiences of delays and even suspension midway into construction, buyers are now relying on major developers with the ability to deliver.

Smaller unit configurations have ensured that the total contract price could be below P3 million. Furthermore, flexible payment terms have allowed the monthly amortization to range from P15,000 to P25,000. Also, location remains a vital buyer consideration. In its inquiry to some buyers, Colliers International has indicated that projects within or near the central business district are a major consideration as it drastically reduces commuting time to work.

Notable growth

In general, the stock of residential condominiums in Makati CBD at the end of this year's first quarter grew to 8,669 units. Compared to the same period last year, the stock expanded by 3.4 percent partly due to the completion of Elizabeth Place (198 units) and Peninsula Tower (84 units). Both projects sparked the vacancy rate for residential condominiums by 282 units.

Vacancy in the luxury segment also increased during the first three months of the year, according to the report. The survey revealed a vacancy of 11.7 percent compared to the previous quarter's 11.3 percent. The rise is attributed to new supply from Peninsula Tower and Roxas Triangle that were both completed in 2001.

As of this year's first quarter, the report estimated that 1,052 units are currently in need of tenants. Looking ahead, Colliers International had forecast vacancy rate to hover around 9 percent by the end of this year or a net absorption of 502 units.

Colliers International is a global real estate services firm with global breadth and local depth. It has presence in 51 countries, providing expert local real estate advice. Colliers offers a complete range of services on a local, regional, national and international basis to users, owners and investors. Among the many services it offers are brokerage, corporate services, construction consulting, investment sales, real estate management services and development.

RESIDENTIAL CONDOMINIUM STOCK - MAKATI CBD

Units	1Q02	4Q01	% Change (QoQ)	1Q03F	% Change (YoY)
Luxury	3,024	2,940	2.9%	3,024	-
Others	5,645	5,447	3.6%	5,645	-
All Grades	8,669	8,387	3.4%	8,669	-

Colliers International Research

AT THE END of this year's first quarter, the stock of residential condominiums in Makati CBD extended to 8,669 units.

COMPUTATIONS FOR VARIOUS AFFORDABLE RESIDENTIAL PROJECTS

	One Legazpi Park	The Manansala	Forbeswood Heights
Total Contract Price*	P3,812,600	P3,288,000	P3,095,500
Unit Area (sq m)	39.76	36.00	36.50
OUTRIGHT CASH			
Cash Discount	P953,150 (25%)	P197,280 (6%)	P464,325 (15%)
Cash Price	P2,859,450	P3,090,720	P2,631,175
Unit Price per sq m**	P59,657	P68,620	P56,950
DEFERRED PAYMENT			
Down Payment	P571,890 (15%)	P657,600 (20%)	P619,100 (20%)
Balance	P953,150 (25% in 48 mos.)	P822,000 (25% in 45 mos.)	P928,650 (30% in 40 mos.)
Bullet Payments	None	None	P773,875 (25% in two payments)
Effective Monthly Amortization	P19,857	P18,267	P42,563
Upon Turnover	P2,287,560 (60%)	P1,808,400 (55%)	P773,875 (25%)
Unit Price per sq m**	P70,825	P73,000	P67,000

Ayala Land Inc., Megaworld Corp., Rockwell Land Corp.
**Including parking and VAT **excluding parking*

COLLIERS International provided a comparison of recently launched residential projects. Choosing the most affordable unit, Colliers computed the financing scheme that provides the buyer with the lowest monthly amortization.

P100-M project soon to open in Baguio City

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

AS A RESPONSE to the demand for more retail outlets in Baguio City, young entrepreneur Katty Qua has embarked on a P100-million project to put up Abanao Square, a new mall at the corner of Abanao and Zandueta Streets.

"We researched the area and we learned that people wanted more shopping choices. Our mall will be quite small but we will differentiate ourselves from the competition by putting together a different tenant mix," Qua said in an interview.

Commercial building

Abanao Square is a 5-story commercial building covering 1,350 square meters. Most of the locators are Manila-based retail outlets such as Seattle's Best, National Bookstore and Chowking but a big portion would also be allotted to successful Baguio-based establishments.

Other locators include Bench/HerBench, Kamiseta, Freeway, Pink Soda, Nike, Gingersnaps and Worlds of Fun.

Opening

The first stores would be open by June with the grand opening slated for October in time for the Christmas rush.

"Aside from the tenant mix, we also put in other attractions such as basement parking, escalators and elevators to make our mall accessible to the handicapped," Qua said.

Qua was also confident that its central location would make it successful. The proposed mall is near tourist centers such as Burnham Park, Baguio City Market and the Maharlika Livelihood Center.

"Baguio is ideal for a mall like this because it is the education capital of the north, so a lot of people come here. All that is needed is a one-stop mall," Qua said.

KLAPPSTUHI
Interior Co.

NEW WRINKLE IN INTERIOR CONSTRUCTION

Klappstuhl announces a new wrinkle in interior construction with the launch of Holzwerk or wood working teams—experts in every line of furniture production and interior construction, repair and innovation. The new Klappstuhl interior construction teams will be composed of fine furniture makers and master carpenters with individual specialties.

Ill-effects of cement tariff lifting warned

THE CHAMBER of Real Estate and Builders' Associations (Creba) has warned against the socio-political, economic and legal repercussions should the government buckle down to pressure from the cement cartel for the lifting of cement import tariff.

In a statement, Creba said:

"The issue of whether or not the government should allow the cement industry to enjoy tariff protection under the Safeguard Measures Act must be weighed not only in terms of meritorious conditions as provided under the law, but more important, in the context of the fundamental principle under the Constitution that every act of the government must serve the common good and promote the general welfare.

"The Constitution does not allow for a certain sector to be protected at the expense and sacrifice of the greater number of our people.

Clear facts

"In this regard the facts should be clear:

- Directly imported nontariffed cement costs only P60-P65 per bag, as against the P125-P150 price of local cement.
- Perennial shortages of local cement during peak construction periods further jack up these prices.
- The cost of cement comprises 70 percent of the cost of land development, and 45 percent of housing construction.

Lower cement prices

"It should therefore follow that free importation of cement would result in considerably lower cement prices, and consequently considerably lower costs of any residential, commercial, industrial or infrastructure development project.

"For the 4.5-million underprivileged homeless families, the price of cement could mean the difference between acquiring land and decent shelter, or forever living in the squalor of slums.

"For the government, considerably lower infrastructure costs would mean lesser drain on its already tight budget, and the possibility of greater allocations for other vital social programs.

"And for industries such as the housing and construction sector—which, compared to the cement industry—contribute the most to the national GDP (gross domestic product), provide employment and income opportunities to hundreds of thousands of workers, business opportunities to 65 other industries employing hundreds of thousands more, and billions of revenues to the government. Lower cement prices and a more stable supply would spark a greater level of production activity that would lead to speedier economic recovery and continued growth.

"Against these unparalleled benefits, the cement industry offers no argument other than its own self-interest, and that of its relatively minuscule work force—which, after all, will not be prejudiced, as it can be readily absorbed by the housing industry and other sectors should the cement industry collapse, if at all it would.

Common good

"The government is duty-bound under the Constitution to promote distributive justice and intervene when the common good so demands.

"In many instances—such as the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program, the repeal of the Anti-Squatting Law and the Retail Trade Nationalization Law—the government has sacrificed the self-interest of the sectors concerned in order to fulfill this grave government responsibility.

Georgetown clubhouse offers ideal place for recreation

HOMEOWNERS can immediately ease into the comfortable and laid-back lifestyle offered by Georgetown Lakeview Vacation Estate in Metro Tagaytay.

First, there are the cozy American country homes where they can enjoy a personal view of the breathtaking Taal vista. Then there's the refreshing mountain air. The peace and privacy of the estate is also perfect for weekend vacationers and retirees.

Posh clubhouse

And the quest for rest and recreation does not end there. For sitting atop the highest point of Georgetown is its posh clubhouse, which according to First Georgetown Ventures Inc. general manager Richie Yang, will be inaugurated soon.

Designed by interior architect Pixie Olivarez, the clubhouse displays the same uncluttered elegance and cozy ambiance of Georgetown homes.

Said Olivarez: "The clubhouse blends in with the rest of the estate. As it sits atop a hill, it overlooks the homes as if to reign over and unify the community."

Lined with glass panels, the clubhouse has an "open architecture." Olivarez said, "I wanted to create a relaxed environment that is both functional and comfortable—a rustic modern look." To achieve this, she used a lot of natural materials and the pieces of furniture were kept along light and simple lines.

Coziness

Said Olivarez: "To contribute to the coziness of the place, the lighting was kept soft. The overall ambiance invites one to linger and enjoy even after the sun goes down. Splashes of pale yellow bring warmth to the walls and give a sunny background to the deepened natural tones of the furniture."

Those looking for some entertainment fix would be pleased with the amenities as well. "There are tables and chairs where one can watch the people in the poolside and there is also a coffee bar," Olivarez said. Billiards and pingpong tables, she said, are likewise found here. Fitness buffs will love the gym, she added.

Adjacent to the lounge is the rectangular pool. The conservatory, on the other hand, offers a perfect spot to unwind. Aside from the plump sofas and easy chairs dotting this octagonal room, it also has the best vantage point with regards the Taal panorama.

A clubhouse that offers great rest and recreation, cozy homes and a spectacular view to boot, who could ask for more?

Megaworld, Bonifacio West launch Forbes Forbeswood Heights in Global City

PREMIER urban property developer Megaworld Corp. and Bonifacio West Development Corp., a consortium led by the Rufino-Dupasquier group, recently launched the first of a series of residential condominium projects in Bonifacio Global City called Forbeswood Heights Luxury Garden Residences at the Megaworld showroom at The World Centre in Makati City.

Forbeswood Heights, consisting of six multistory towers, is part of the P15-billion Forbes Town Center, a mixed-use, five-hectare development located in the West Crescent Park district at the former military facility in Taguig.

Setting new standards

The first major property development of its kind at the Bonifacio Global City in the last two years, Forbeswood Heights is poised to set new standards in cosmopolitan living as it brings together elegant residential choices available under flexible payment schemes and a host of lifestyle amenities and facilities in arguably the country's finest location close to the Manila Golf and Country Club, Forbes Park and Manila Polo Club.

"Forbeswood Heights presents a unique opportunity to own a condominium unit at a fraction of the cost of an existing house and lot in a prime area that hosts the country's most exclusive gated villages," said Megaworld vice president for sales and marketing Rosemarie Cambaliza.

Accessibility

The project is an easy commute from the Global City's business, commercial, leisure and learning centers such as the nearby e-Square IT Park, Bonifacio Stopover, S & R Price Club, The Fort, Manila Japanese School, British School Manila and International School Manila.

Through the EDSA-Kalayaan Flyover and the C-5 Road, Forbeswood Heights is accessible to the country's premier business centers, the Makati and Ortigas central business districts, as well as the Eastwood City satellite business district.

Meticulously planned

Megaworld's newest urban enclave is meticulously planned to offer its target prospects a new standard of privacy and comfort without a high-end price. Featuring executive studios and one-bedroom residences, which come in floor areas of 59 or 48 square meters, Forbeswood Heights offers homes designed to address the varying needs of young urban professionals, executives, bachelors, small families and even students.

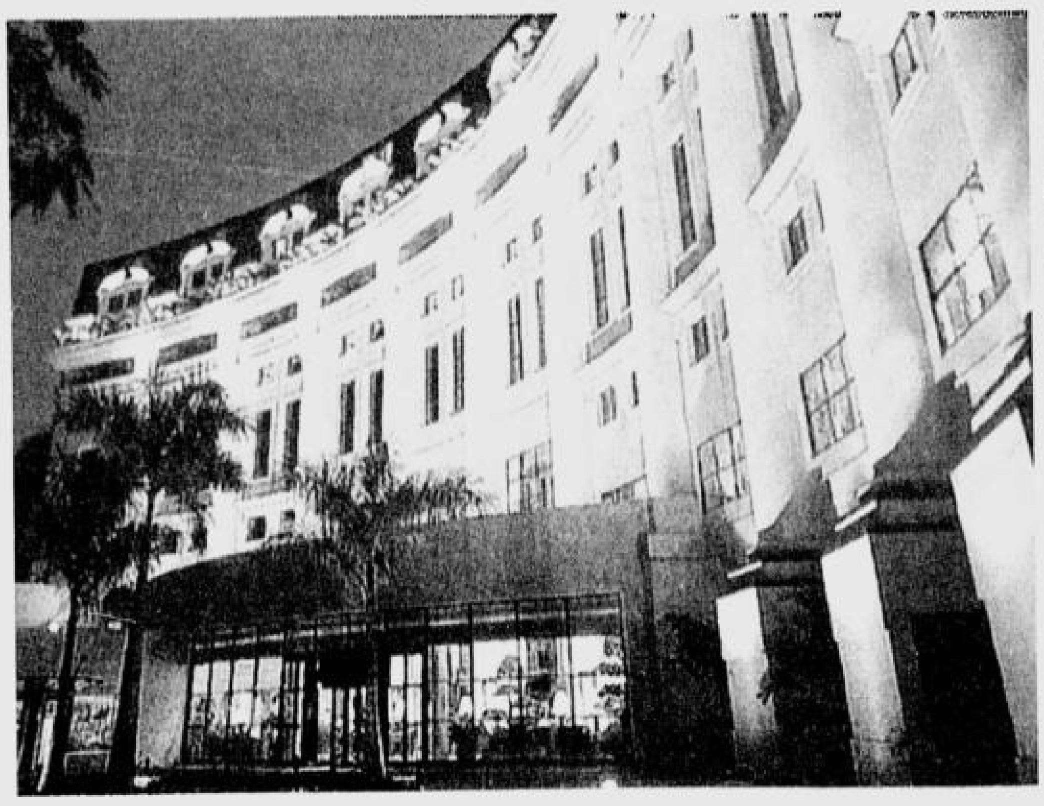
A typical unit features built-in finishes and fittings including polished ceramic tiles for the living and dining areas, wood parquet floor for the bedroom or sleeping den, modular undercounter and hanging cabinets for the kitchen, mechanical ventilation for both kitchen and toilet as well as modular closets for [illegible] bedrooms.

Superior building facilities

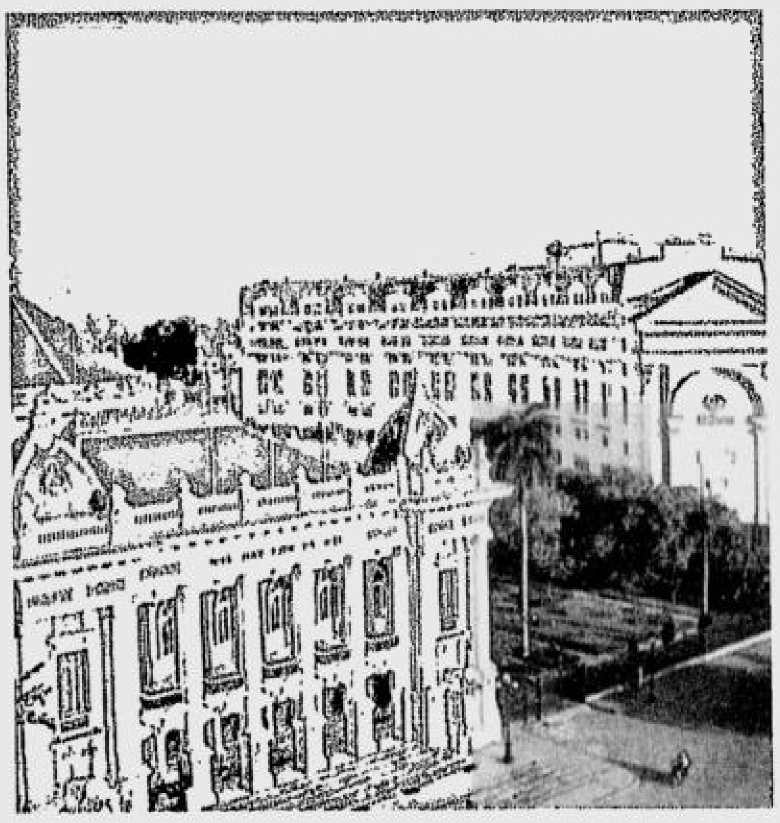
Each of the six towers boasts superior building facilities such as an entrance lobby, a security command center for 24-hour monitoring, centralized mail room, two high-speed interior-finished elevators, automatic fire sprinkler system, standby power generator for common areas and an overhead water tank and underground cistern. Car wash facilities are in place at strategic areas of the two to three floors of basement parking.

The developer has also lined up an impressive array of recreational amenities such as a lap and free-form swimming pool with in-water pool lounge, children's wading pool, changing rooms, sunbathing lounge, tennis court, putting green, children's playground, flower gardens and bird bath.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE



ONE window covered the third and fourth floors, lending the illusion that there existed just one floor instead of two. The architects ingeniously molded the top floor—integrating it with the last floor—again giving an illusion of one floor instead of two.



HILTON Hanoi Opera is an exquisite backdrop to the famous Opera House in Hanoi.

Fusing classic architecture in modern times

By Tessa R. Salazar

HANOI, Vietnam—Stepping into a colonial style hotel, you would observe Hanoi's distinctive charm stemming from its architectural inheritance from turn-of-the-20th-century France.

Located near Hoan Kiem Lake, at the business and commercial district of Hanoi, the 22,000-sq.-m Hilton Hanoi Opera hotel has 269 guestrooms on seven floors. It has deluxe and executive floors offering a view of the city or the Opera House.

Inspired by French classic architecture, the Vietnamese government allowed the construction of the Hilton Hanoi Opera in 1992 and now the hotel blends well as a backdrop of the historical, refurbished Opera House.

Strict guidelines

Valuing patrimony as well as opening doors to new technologies, the hotel's construction was under strict guidelines and directions. Art'Ur, a French architectural agency, was commissioned to create Hilton Hanoi Opera with architects Philippe Pascal and Eric de Chambure.

Internally, however, most of the hotel's furniture was produced in Vietnam with original painting from local artists, lacquer cabinets, and embroideries giving the hotel a touch of Vietnam.

$64-M investment

Total investment in the Hilton Hanoi Opera is $64 million. Its distinctive element—curves blending into the design of the site—lends an elegant charm to the building.

Architects created a waterfall on the side façade facing the street. Hilton Hanoi Opera's general manager Wibo Wilmink told the INQUIRER that the waterfall is an allusion to the famous St. Michel waterfall in Paris and is now well known as a meeting place.

Technical restrictions

Wilmink said that one of the challenges for the architects was to build the building smaller than the Opera House, as this was part of the technical restrictions.

Illusion did the trick. One window covered the third and fourth floors, giving the illusion that there exists just one floor instead of two. Ten columns along the façade facing the Opera House were built on top of square stones. These columns then looked smaller, as these started at the same level as the first floor. Then the architects ingeniously molded the top floor—integrating it with the last floor—again giving an illusion of one floor instead of two.

The grand hall, majestic staircases and glass elevators added to the mood of the hotel project.

"The hotel's location and architecture make it distinct, but what really puts it apart from the rest is our biggest asset, our people," he said.

Wilmink said the hotel offers a wide variety of international and local dishes, including vegetarian dishes at the "Chez Manon." The hotel is also home to Turtle Poem, voted as Hanoi's No. 1 Cantonese restaurant as well as a sports bar.

The hotel's royal boat-shaped ballroom accommodates up to 650 guests. For smaller events, there are five private function rooms and an executive boardroom plus a business center. There are two executive floors, a clubroom lounge and a health club that includes a swimming pool, sauna and a whirlpool.

Hilton Hanoi Opera is also near the old quarters around Hoan Kiem Lake, which is popular for its small shops selling handicraft, embroidery and silk. Many galleries feature the paintings of this former French colony's contemporary artists.

Guingona keynotes Creba business meeting

GUINGONA

VICE President Teofisto T. Guingona Jr. will be the guest of honor and keynote speaker of the Chamber of Real Estate and Builders' Association (Creba) during its monthly business meeting and fellowship on May 30 at the Metro Club in Makati City. This was announced by Florentino S. Dulalia Jr., Creba national president.

Guingona, who also serves as foreign secretary, is expected to tackle relevant issues that confront the government and the country's economy.

Creba is an umbrella organization with more than 4,000 institutional and individual members from the real estate and allied industries. An advocacy group, it analyzes, evaluates and studies pronouncements from government leadership in view of the industry's multiplier effect on all sectors of society. Creba members expect to gain valuable insights from the Vice President who has made a mark in Philippine politics as a fearless government fiscalizer.

Guingona is also noted for having authored and co-authored a number of Philippine laws, specifically the Local Government Code (Republic Act 7160), Creation of the Commission of the Filipino Language (RA 7104), Defining and Penalizing the Crime of Plunder (RA 7080), Magna Carta for Disabled Persons (RA 7277) and Consumer Act of the Philippines (RA 7394).

Recognized as a master of Philippine Constitution, he has written five books. At present, he serves as chair of Cabinet Cluster E of the Macapagal administration and president of Lakas-NUCD UMDP. He founded Sandata and became honorary chair of Bandila, two mass-based organizations dedicated to social and economic reforms. He established the Prosecution Academy to provide skills training for public prosecutors, government lawyers and law enforcers.

New model units at Vallejo Place, Brentwood

MASAITO Development Corp., developer of subdivisions in Cavite, Bulacan and Pampanga, will mark the blessing of model units in its two projects.

On June 1 the new model units in Vallejo Place, via Molino, Bacoor, Cavite, will be opened to the public. The two house model units named Bianca and Monica adapted warm colors reminiscent of Mediterranean residences. Monica is a villa-type unit with a floor area of 51 square meters and a minimum lot area of 90 sq. m. Bianca is a single-detached unit with a floor area of 63 sq. m and a minimum lot area of 70 sq. m. These units were designed to maximize on space and functionality.

The affair, which will also be a Family Day, will start with a motorcade along Molino Road, after which the model units will be blessed and opened. Games and surprises will be held in the afternoon for visiting families.

Meanwhile, on June 15 the new model units of Brentwood Village in Mabalacat, Pampanga, will also be blessed. The exclusive subdivision, located at Barangay Mawaque, is already developed and has an existing community. In addition to its previous units, Brentwood will start offering two new unit designs—a single-detached, two-story home named Angelica and a duplex-type unit named Monica.

Vallejo Place and Brentwood Village are just one of the house-and-lot projects of Masaito Development Corp. and Citihomes Builder Development Corp. Other projects include Northgate Park in San Jose Del Monte, Bulacan; Meadowpark and Citihomes Molino in Molino, Bacoor, Cavite; and Summerfield in Trece Martires City, Cavite.

Your Total Solution to any Waterproofing Problem

FLEXSEAL™
Elastomeric Paint
Total waterproofing protection for walls, floors & other general waterproofing requirements

SUPERSEAL
Cementitious Waterproofing Coating
Heavy-duty cement-based waterproofing protection for walls, floors, basements, water tanks and other water-holding structures

TILESTIK
Waterproof Tile Adhesive & Grout
Waterproof, high strength cement-based tile adhesive & grout for interior/exterior wall and floor, thick and thin bed application, not affected by continual exposure to water

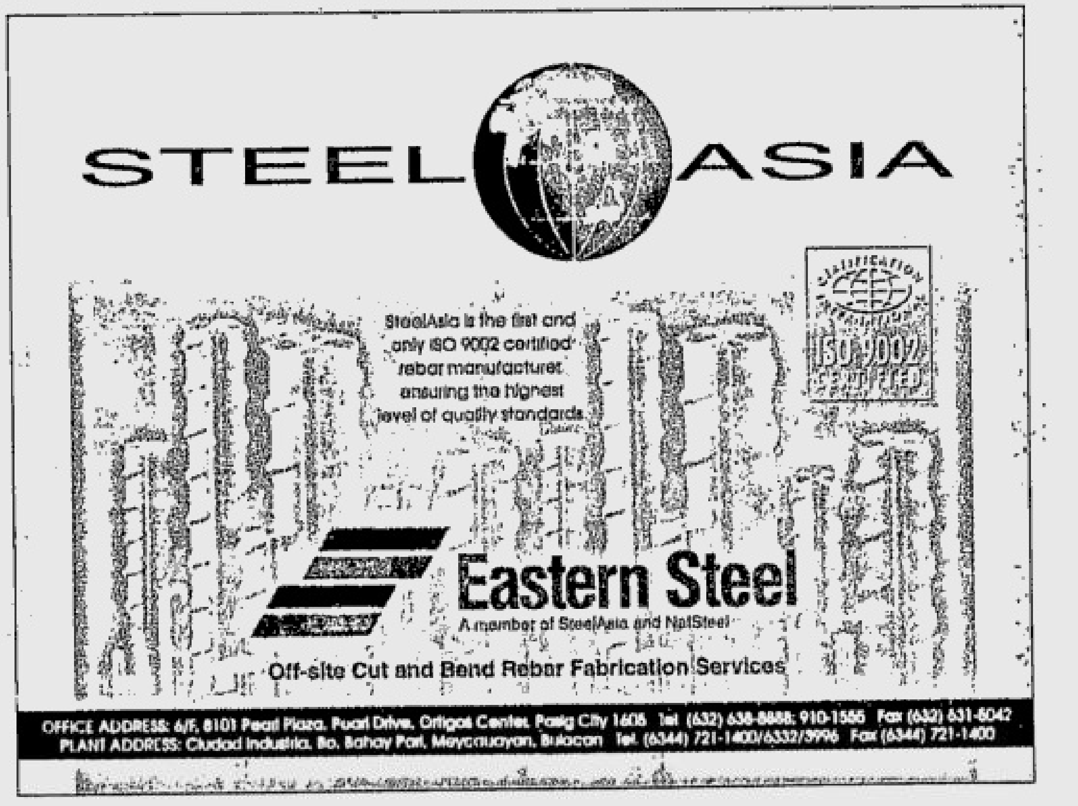
'from the most trusted name in waterproofing:
CAMPBRIDGE Waterproofing Systems, Inc
1370 JOSE ABAD SANTOS AVE., METRO MANILA, PHILIPPINES
Tel. Nos. 252-05-31 up to 32; 252-05-49 up to 51; 252-05-59; Fax No: 252-05-50
Website: www.campbridge.com

Distributor for Northern Luzon:
DAGUPAN TONY'S LUMBER INC. (PROBUILD)
AB Fernandez Ave Dagupan Tel No (075) 523-4113 to 14/522-0477
Distributor for Visayas and Mindanao:
CEBU OVERSEA HARDWARE CO., INC.
#82 Plaridel St Cebu City Tel No (032) 254 1511 Fax No (032) 52420
AVAILABLE THROUGH DEALERS NATIONWIDE

GOLD MAPLE FLOOR LAMINATES
- Durable
- Easy to install
- Easy to clean, No wax care
- Does not need sanding, varnishing or polishing
- Easy to maintain
- Affordable
- Long lift span
- Comfortable
- Hygienic
- Meets the demands of commercial environment.

ONLY P495.00 per SQ.M.

MULTI-RICH HOME DECORS, INC.
488 Boni Ave. Ext. cor. San Joaquin St. Mandaluyong City
Tels:531-6396; 531-5044; 532-1147; 533-2027 Fax 533-2026



STEEL ASIA

SteelAsia is the first and only ISO 9002 certified rebar manufacturer ensuring the highest level of quality standards.

ISO 9002 CERTIFIED

Eastern Steel
A member of SteelAsia and NatSteel
Off-site Cut and Bend Rebar Fabrication Services

OFFICE ADDRESS: 6/F, 8101 Pearl Plaza, Pearl Drive, Ortigas Center, Pasig City 1605 Tel (632) 638-8888; 910-1586 Fax (632) 631-8042
PLANT ADDRESS: Ciudad Industria, Bo. Bahay Pari, Meycauayan, Bulacan Tel. (6344) 721-1400/6332/3996 Fax (6344) 721-1400

TILING SYSTEMS?

Consult the tiling authority!

Lepanto Trading Corp.
The tiling authority.

PRODUCTS: Ceramic Floor & Wall Tiles • Homogeneous Tiles • Porcelain Tiles • Tile Adhesives • Tile Grouts • Tile Trims • Sanitaryware • Lavatories

SERVICES: Professional Assistance • Free Color Matching • Free Estimates • Free Consultation • Delivery

LAGUNA DEPOT: Km. 54 Brgy. Tulo, Makiling, Calamba, Laguna Outlets: Brgy. Sala, Cabuyao, Laguna • 2901 Brgy. Anos, Los Baños, Laguna • Bo. Pulong, Sta. Cruz, Sta. Rosa • Bo. Canlalay, Biñan • Lodora Village, Nat'l. Hi-way, Tunasan, Muntinlupa City • 591 Fabricare Bldg., Alabang-Zapote Rd., Las Piñas City

IMUS DEPOT: Anabu 1, Aguinaldo Hi-Way, Imus, Cavite Outlets: Km. 19 Dulong Bayan, Bacoor, Cavite • Brgy. Pala-Pala, Dasmariñas, Cavite • Molino III, Bacoor • Paliparan III, Dasmariñas • Brgy. Longus Talaba, Bacoor

ORTIGAS DEPOT: Km. 18 Cellu Industrial Complex, Ortigas Ave. Ext.,Cainta, Rizal Outlets: 608 Concepcion Uno, J.P. Rizal, Marikina City • Brgy. Mayamot, Marcos Hi-Way, Antipolo • 4/F, Bldg. B, SM Megamall • #29 Circumferential Road, Antipolo City • Unit 10, C. Raymundo Ave., Pasig City

NOVALICHES DEPOT: 1127-F Quirino Hi-Way, Zabarte, Bo. Kaligayahan, Novaliches, Q.C. Outlets: B43 L6 Regalado Ave., North Fairview, Quezon City • 561 Don Mariano Ave., Old Balara, Quezon City • 573 Quirino Hi-Way, Bagbag, Novaliches, Quezon City • Philippine Rabbit Compound, 1240 EDSA Balintawak, Quezon City • Blk 1, Lot 2, SM Homes, Camarin Road, Caloocan City • A. Mabini St., Burgos, Montalban, Rizal

SUB DEPOT: Brgy. Sindalan, San Fernando, Pampanga • Ayala Hi-Way, Balintawak, Lipa City • C/o Sony Service Center, Brgy. San Roque, San Pablo City

NEW
VULCAN
CENTRALIZED STORAGE WATER HEATERS

IMPORTED FROM AUSTRALIA

Better suited for the asian environment which has a higher level of humidity. Australian Made Water Heaters are more corrosion resistant than heaters made in other countries.

FREE INSTALLATION
within Metro Manila

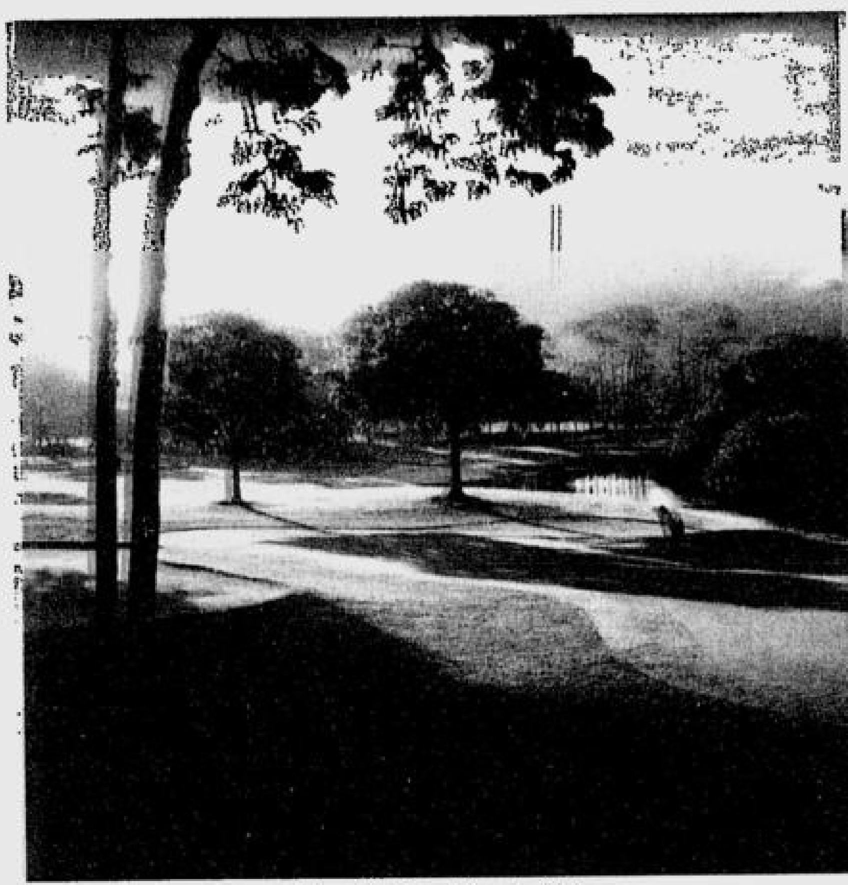
Available at all major Hardware and Builders' Center
Call 723-0032 for the dealer nearest you!

Guaranteed after sales servcie from the leading Water Heater Company
STOCKIST DISTRIBUTOR: JETT WATER HEATER COMPANY, INC.

FORBESWOOD HEIGHTS

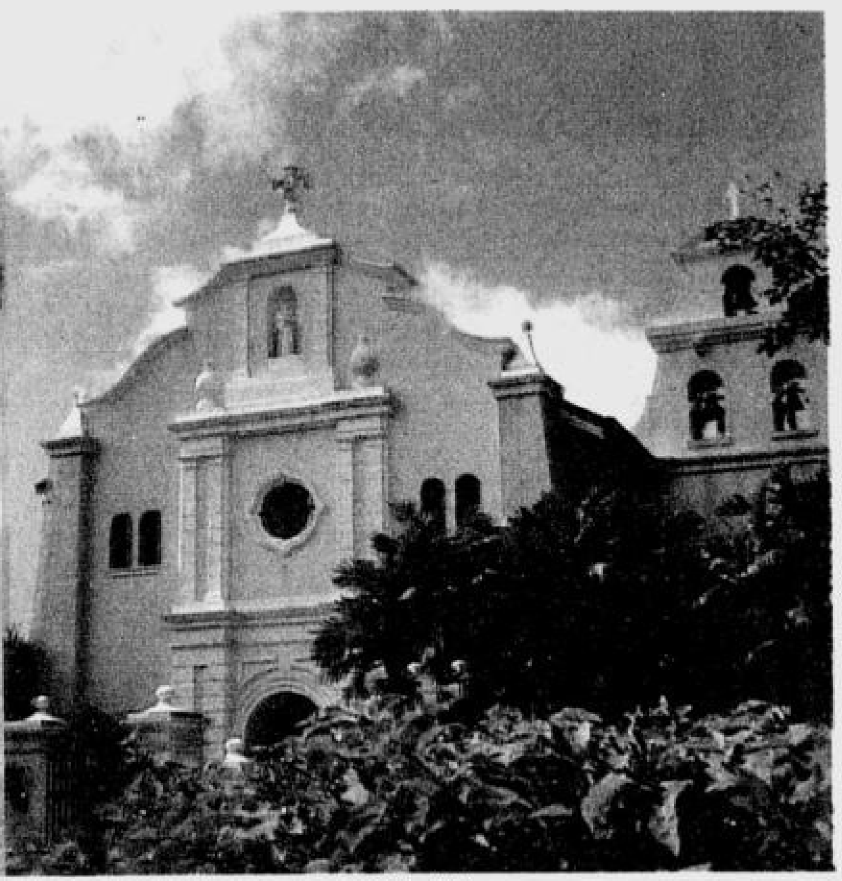
LUXURY GARDEN RESIDENCES

Come Home to Paradise.



Manila Golf and Country Club

Manila Polo Club



Forbes Park

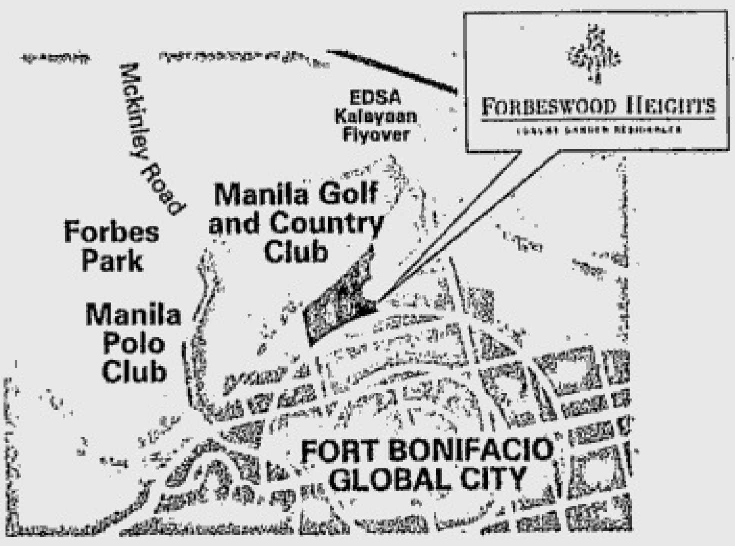
Make the country's finest neighborhood your own.

Forbeswood Heights gated community perspective

Village town center

Garden and amenity area

Right next to Forbes Park, the Manila Golf and Country Club and the Manila Polo Club—the icons of prestige and power in the country's finest neighborhood—you'll find Forbeswood Heights. A new village lovingly master-planned by the foremost craftsmen of a cosmopolitan lifestyle steeped in luxury. An urban oasis where homes, gardens and playgrounds embrace one another in perfect harmony. A private enclave that celebrates your zest for the good life. At Forbeswood Heights, experience what it means to have everything revolve around you.


Mckinley Road
EDSA Kalayaan Flyover
FORBESWOOD HEIGHTS
Manila Golf and Country Club
Forbes Park
Manila Polo Club
FORT BONIFACIO GLOBAL CITY

A Luxury Residential Development of:

BONIFACIO·WEST

BONIFACIO·WEST DEVELOPMENT CORP.

and

MEGAWORLD CORPORATION

www.megaworldcorp.com

2/F The World Centre, 330 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City

Tels. (632) 867-8868 • 867-8888

Fax: (632) 867-8028 • E-mail: sales@megaworldcorp.com

For Announcement Purposes Only

TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2002 PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

For feedback, text us at (0918)917-5026 or email us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

LIFESTYLE

Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso

Fitness

Ocean Adventure
SUBIC BAY
THE PREMIER MARINE PARK
Tel. No.: (047)2529000
Website: www.oceanadventure.com.ph

Electronic ab belts fail to hold up sagging bellies

WELL AND GOOD

Tina Aboitiz Juan

Part I

EXERCISE scientists and fitness trainers the world over must have cheered when news came out this month that the United States Federal Trade Commission (FTC), which protects consumers' rights, charged three top-selling electronic abdominal exercise belts with making false claims in what it calls "Project Absurd."

The American Council on Exercise, the fitness industry's "workout watch dog," issued a press release giving its full support to the FTC's decision.

In a press conference May 8, FTC chair Timothy J. Muris said, "For years, the marketers of diet and exercise products have been preying on overweight, out-of-shape consumers by hawking false hope in a pill, false hope in a bottle, and now, in a belt. These electronic ab gadgets don't do a thing to turn a bulging beer belly into a sleek six-pack muscled stomach."

The targets of the FTC's legal action are the top three bestselling electronic muscle stimulation (EMS) products marketed under the brand names Ab Energizer, AbTronic and Fast Abs.

EMS machines are legitimate physical therapy and rehabilitation devices that use a mild electrical current to stimulate muscles to contract and relax via rubber electrode pads that adhere to the skin. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved these devices as medical tools to increase blood circulation to an injured muscle, help relax muscle spasms and relieve pain, and prevent atrophy of the muscles of people who are paralyzed.

False claims

So why is the FTC going after AB Energizer, AbTronic and Fast Abs? If you have watched the infomercials touting these products, you'll know why. As cited in the official FTC press release, here are some of the questionable claims that prompted the consumer protection agency to pull the plug on the products:

- "Now you can get rock hard abs with no sweat."
- "Lose 4 inches in 30 days guaranteed."
- "30 percent more effective than normal exercise."
- "10 minutes equals 600 situps."

The FTC says that claims like these are patently false and without any scientific basis. The agency adds that Ab Energizer falsely claims that its product will cause weight loss while AbTronic lies when it says that its device can eliminate cellulite.

Inadequate safety warnings

The FTC is not just upset with the exaggerated claims but also with the three manufacturers' assertion that their products are safe for all users. According to the FTC, the erring manufacturers fail to provide adequate warnings about health hazards for pregnant women, those with pacemakers or other implanted metallic or electronic devices, swollen or inflamed areas or cancerous lesions. AbTronic and Fast Abs also falsely claim that their products are safe to use over the chest area.

Deceptive business practices

If that wasn't enough, the FTC also questions the companies' refund, shipping and warranty practices. The FTC alleges that all three misrepresent their "money-back guarantees" and fail to deliver their products within the promised shipping time (in some cases, even completely failing to send the product). In the case of Fast Abs, the FTC charges that customers are told they have a one-year warranty when in reality, they only get 30 days.

The FTC seeks to stop permanently the companies from making false claims and from engaging in other deceptive marketing practices, and to require them to refund their customers.

Protect yourself from fitness fraud

It is human nature to want to take the easy way out, especially when it comes to fitness. Who wouldn't want to just lie back while reading a book or watching television and let some machine do the work of sculpting your body? Unfortunately, it just doesn't work that way. Keep in mind some tips from the FTC the next time you come across fitness claims that seem too good to be true. Be suspicious when a machine claims to:

- Provide easy or effortless results or burn excessive calories. The claims may be true for athletes in top physical condition, but not for most people.
- Help you burn more calories or lose weight faster than other types of equipment. In general, exercise equipment that gives the whole body or major parts of it a good workout probably helps you burn more calories than devices directed at only one part of the body. And, the more you use the equipment, the more calories you'll burn. That's a good reason to select equipment that suits you and your lifestyle. A study might show that one type of equipment burns more calories per hour than another kind. But if the exercise is uncomfortable—or the equipment hard to use—chances are the device will gather dust, not help you burn calories.
- Be target specific, helping you reduce or shape only the parts where you need help most—for example, trim your hips or lose the proverbial "spare tire." Toning and losing weight in one particular area of the body require regular exercise that works the whole body. Your weight depends on the number of calories you eat and use each day; increasing your physical activity helps you burn extra calories.

The FTC adds that consumers should also do the following to protect themselves from deceptive marketing practices:

- Read the ad's fine print. The advertised results may be due to more than just the use of a machine; it may also involve reducing calories.
- Be skeptical of testimonials and before-and-after pictures from "satisfied" customers. Their experiences may not be typical. Just because one person had success with an equipment doesn't mean that you will, too.
- Get details on warranties, guarantees and return policies. A "30-day money-back guarantee" may not seem so good if you have to pay for the shipping of equipment you want to return to sender.
- Check out the company's customer and support services. Call the advertised toll-free numbers to find out how easy it is to the company and how helpful they are.

The last word

FTC chair Muris said it all in one sentence, "Unfortunately,

ELECTRONIC/ p.C3

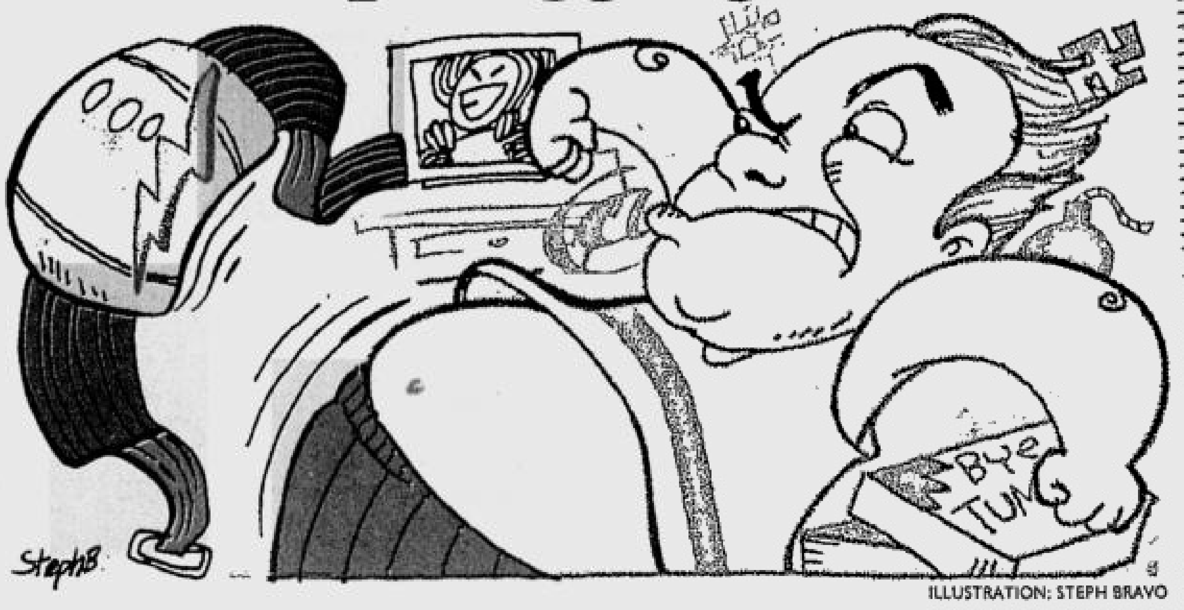


ILLUSTRATION: STEPH BRAVO

ATTENTION HOTDOG LOVERS!!!
SABRETT
VENTURE INTO THE ULTIMATE HOTDOG EXPERIENCE. INDULGE IN OUR SABRETT REGULARS, FOOTLONGS, SPICY JUMBOS AND QUARTER POUNDERS
COME VISIT OUR KIOSK AT THE KINGSWOOD ARCADE, KINGSWOOD TOWERS, PASONG TAMO COR. VITO CRUZ EXTENSION IN MAKATI.
WE GUARANTEE YOU THIS WILL BE YOUR FINAL HOTDOG DESTINATION!
FOR AFFORDABLE FRANCHISING INQUIRIES, PLEASE CALL: 895-4949 •899-9126 • 899-9125
ASK US ABOUT OUR NEW PRODUCT : LEO'S ITALIAN SAUSAGE AND HOTDOGS / *ALSO FRANCHISING*

A Hot Shower Bath is Cool.
Call now to get Free Installation!
724-59-07
415-93-78
ARIVA
WATER HEATERS

Magic Portable Videoke Microphone
ANYTIME, ANYWHERE!
790++ Songs built-in
With 1 year Warranty
FREE DELIVERY! (within Metro Manila only)
everything you need is in the microphone!!!
Connects Directly to TV
Shows the score after each song
Wireless stereo audio output at four (4) FM frequencies
Hi-Fi dynamic sound quality
Adjustable pitch, tempo, echo, microphone and music volume
Random Song Selection, Song Reservation, Continuous Play and Team Game Features
FOR RETAIL & WHOLESALE, CALL: IN-A-JIFFY ENTERPRISES
Tel. Nos.: 288-9242 / 446-5879 / 373-7396 to 97
WEBSITE: *http://magicmicrophone.bizland.com*
Also Available at TODAY SHOP 2nd Flr. Star J Plaza Mall, Malabon • Tel. No.: 283-0614

You CAN Get A Slimmer Shape
So What's YOUR Excuse For Staying Fat?
STOP MAKING EXCUSES. Don't let your age and lifestyle get in the way of being slim. At Marie-France, you'll lose extra pounds and reduce inches of fat effectively and effortlessly without sacrificing too much of your time, energy, and health. You'll get real weight-loss results with our non-invasive and relaxing slimming programme. You won't have to strain yourself ever again to achieve a shapelier figure!
Stay slim and feel healthier.
Call Marie-France now!
Get 2 FREE PLASTI-DERMI TREATMENTS upon enrollment from May 27-31, 2002
Uncover Your Curves
Marie France
Bodyline International®
NEW LOCATION
MAKATI 816-1262 815-2052 819-3340
ORTIGAS 687-1216 687-1218 638-3028
QUEZON CITY 372-6635 372-6636 410-3723 • 410-3724
BINONDO 242-2199 243-8230 242-3299 • 242-2399
ALABANG 809-9619 850-4574 842-4633 • 842-6887
SHAW 534-5898 534-5877 717-0071 • 717-0072
CONGRESSIONAL 920-8021 920-8047 920-7675
PAMPANGA 961-2981/91 860-6921/22
CEBU 233-7637 233-7639 233-7641
Per DTI-NCR Permit No 2004 Series of 2002
NO EXERCISE MACHINES • NO WORKOUT CLASSES • NO PILLS OR INJECTIONS • NO HUNGER PAINS • NO MEDICATIONS • NO SURGERY

ComicRelief

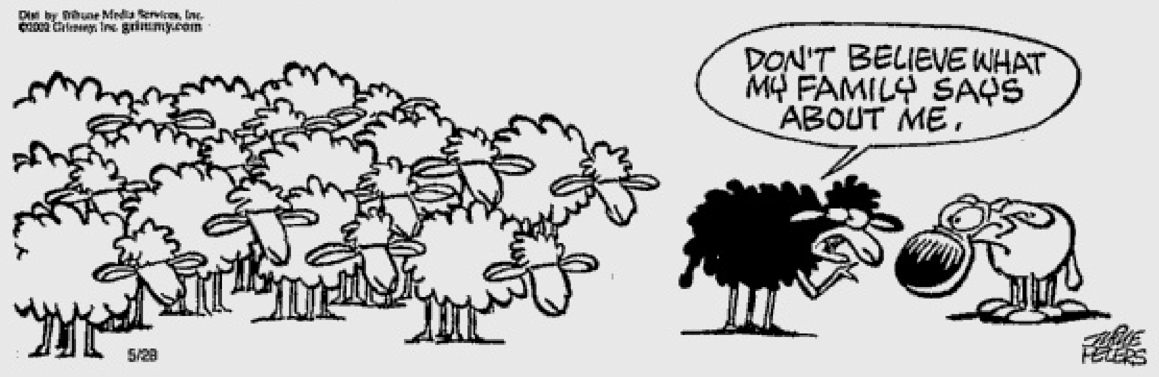
e-mail feedback at arts@inquirer.com.ph

TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2002

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

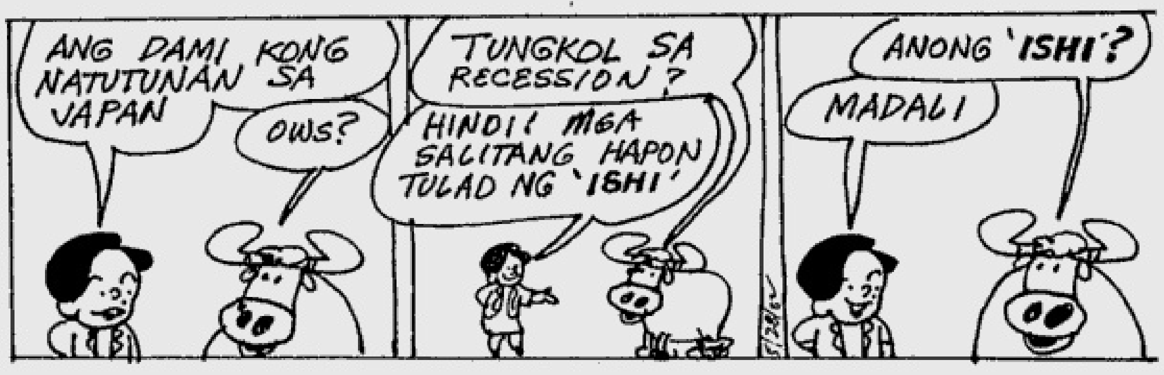
BY MIKE PETERS

Dist by Tribune Media Services, Inc. ©2002 Grimmy, Inc. grimmy.com


DON'T BELIEVE WHAT MY FAMILY SAYS ABOUT ME.
5/28
MIKE PETERS

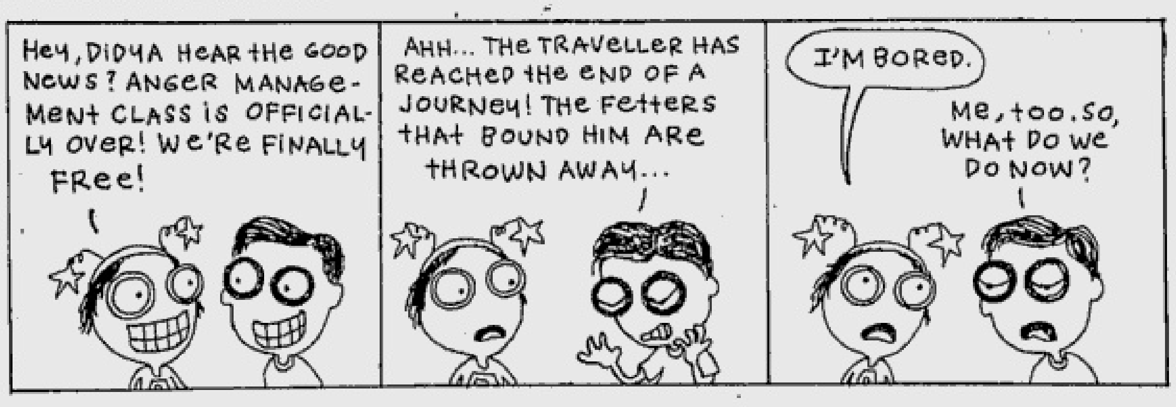
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


ANG DAMI KONG NATUTUNAN SA JAPAN
OWS?
TUNGKOL SA RECESSION?
HINDI! MGA SALITANG HAPON TULAD NG 'ISHI'
MADALI
ANONG 'ISHI'?

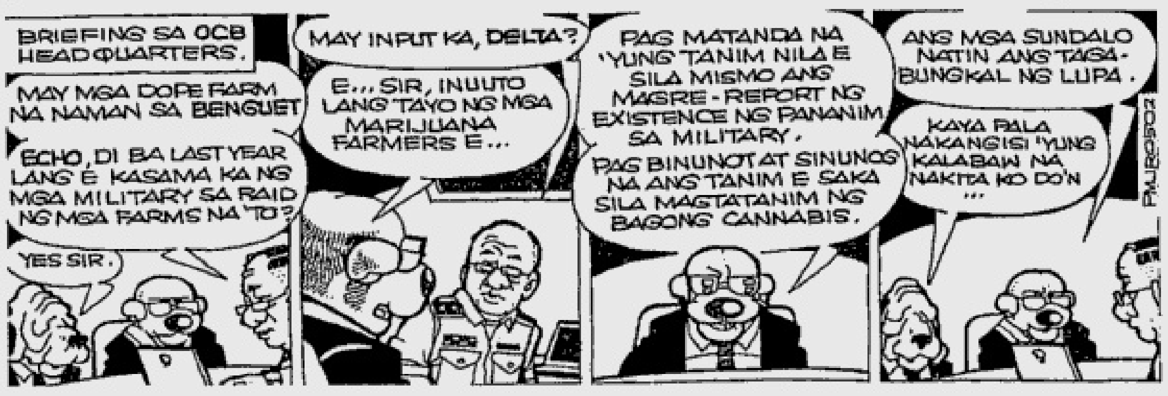
ATOMO AND WEBOY

BY LYRA GARCELLANO


Hey, DIDYA HEAR THE GOOD NEWS? ANGER MANAGEMENT CLASS IS OFFICIALLY OVER! WE'RE FINALLY FREE!
AHH... THE TRAVELLER HAS REACHED THE END OF A JOURNEY! THE FETTERS THAT BOUND HIM ARE THROWN AWAY...
I'M BORED.
ME, TOO. SO, WHAT DO WE DO NOW?

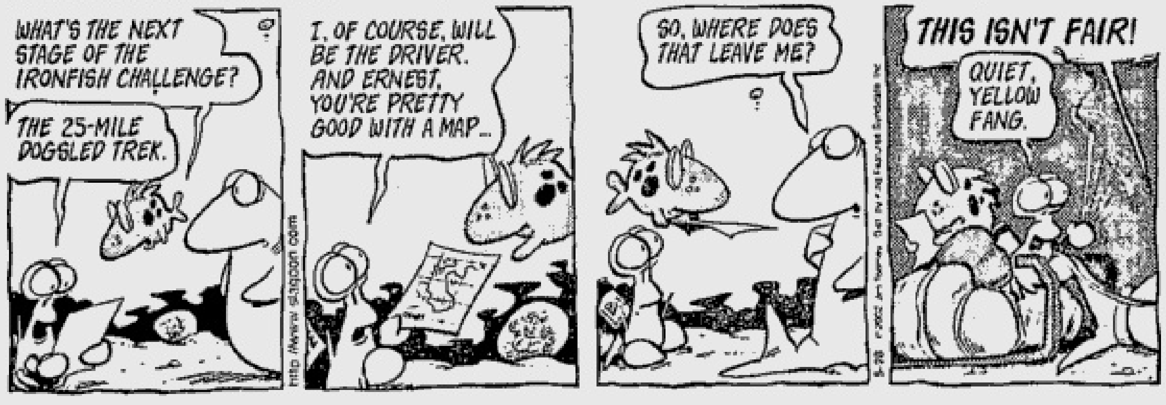
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


BRIEFING SA OCB HEADQUARTERS.
MAY MGA DOPE FARM NA NAMAN SA BENGUET
ECHO, DI BA LAST YEAR LANG E KASAMA KA NG MGA MILITARY SA RAID NG MGA FARMS NA 'TO?
YES SIR.
MAY INPUT KA, DELTA?
E... SIR, INUUTO LANG TAYO NG MGA MARIJUANA FARMERS E...
PAG MATANDA NA 'YUNG TANIM NILA E SILA MISMO ANG MAGRE-REPORT NG EXISTENCE NG PANANIM SA MILITARY.
PAG BINUNOT AT SINUNOG NA ANG TANIM E SAKA SILA MAGTATANIM NG BAGONG CANNABIS.
ANG MGA SUNDALO NATIN ANG TAGA-BUNGKAL NG LUPA.
KAYA PALA NAKANGISI 'YUNG KALABAW NA NAKITA KO DO'N ...
PMJR052802

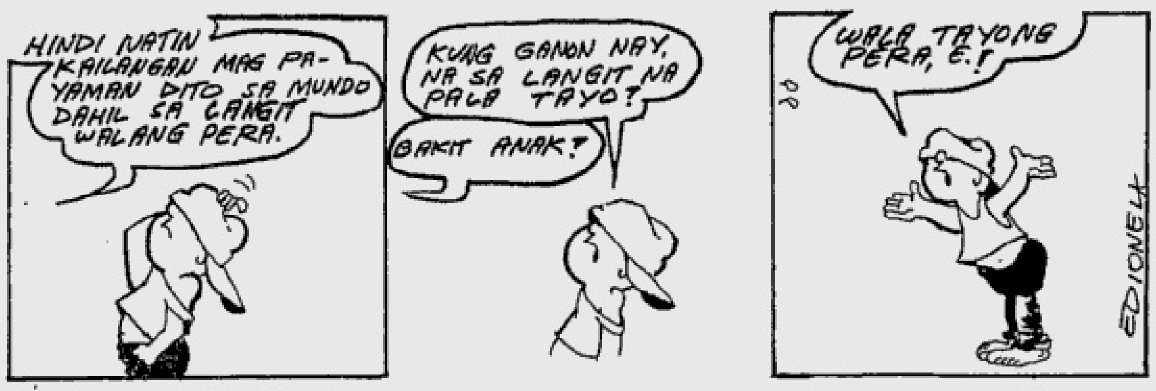
SHERMAN'S LAGOON

BY JIM TOOMEY


WHAT'S THE NEXT STAGE OF THE IRONFISH CHALLENGE?
THE 25-MILE DOGSLED TREK.
I, OF COURSE, WILL BE THE DRIVER. AND ERNEST, YOU'RE PRETTY GOOD WITH A MAP...
SO, WHERE DOES THAT LEAVE ME?
THIS ISN'T FAIR!
QUIET, YELLOW FANG.
http://www.slagoon.com

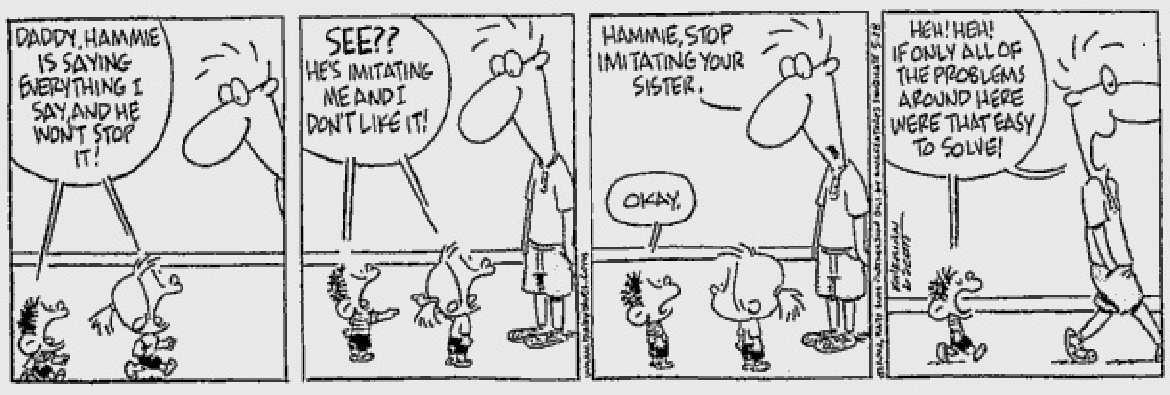
SIMO

BY EDGAR DIONELA


HINDI NATIN KAILANGAN MAG PA-YAMAN DITO SA MUNDO DAHIL SA LANGIT WALANG PERA.
KUNG GANON NAY, NA SA LANGIT NA PALA TAYO?
BAKIT ANAK?
WALA TAYONG PERA, E.!
EDIONELA

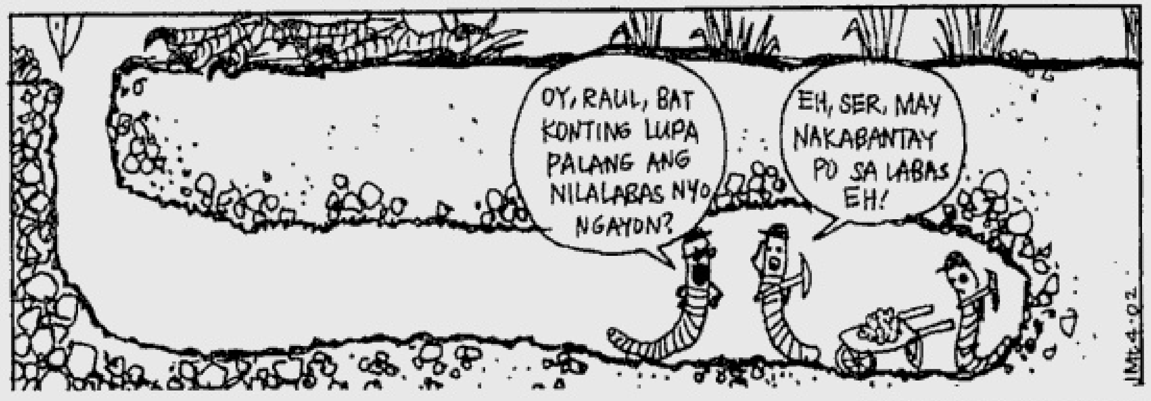
BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


DADDY, HAMMIE IS SAYING EVERYTHING I SAY, AND HE WON'T STOP IT!
SEE?? HE'S IMITATING ME AND I DON'T LIKE IT!
HAMMIE, STOP IMITATING YOUR SISTER.
OKAY.
HEH! HEH! IF ONLY ALL OF THE PROBLEMS AROUND HERE WERE THAT EASY TO SOLVE!

MIKROKOSMOS

BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


OY, RAUL, BAT KONTING LUPA PALANG ANG NILALABAS NYO NGAYON?
EH, SER, MAY NAKABANTAY PO SA LABAS EH!
JMt 4·02

HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Gladys Knight, Madeleine Le Roux, Joseph Cross, Jesse Bradford

Happy Birthday: You will work hard and strive to do the best job possible this year. Your desire to make improvements will be well received by your colleagues and by your employer. You will have great courage and strength when it comes to communication and learning and this will help you stand up for your beliefs. Your numbers are 5, 12, 19, 23, 33, 38

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You're better off to take a trip than to try to accomplish work today. Someone will stand in your way causing frustration. Be prepared to take care of the little things that others have not.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Travel should be on your mind, even if you only take a short jaunt. People with different beliefs or traditions will help bring clarity to your life.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't be afraid to make some financial maneuvers today. Your insight into future trends should help you make the right choices. Real estate investments will be to your advantage.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Take advantage of partnership opportunities. Your mental attitude will enhance your reputation. Being positive will enable you to drum up the support you need.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Get more involved in projects that you enjoy. Work-related matters will turn out to your benefit. Your ability to delegate work will be put to good use.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): New love connections will evolve through friends or relatives at social events. This is a great day to do something with children. You will find good buys if you go shopping but don't spend more than you have.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You will do better today with people you don't know well. Family members may try to stop you from following your dreams. You will have to stand up for yourself.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You will acquire some interesting information from a friend. Toss in your ideas and you will come up with something that is not only feasible but profitable.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You may be confused regarding your financial situation especially if you are questioning your vocation. If you want to make a change, now is the time to check into what course you have to take.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You may have trouble dealing with emotional issues today. Self-deception may lead you in the wrong direction. Re-evaluate your situation or ask someone you trust for a second opinion.

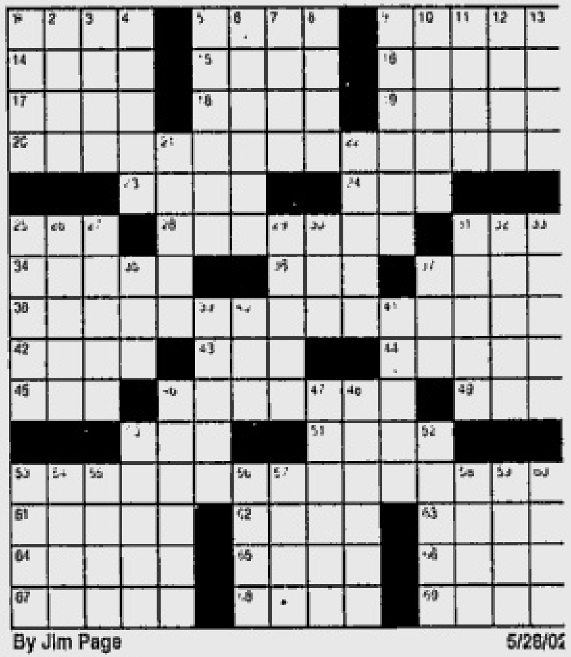
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You may be tempted to get involved in something that could lead you astray. Steer clear of secret affairs. You must focus on personal finances today and steer clear of joint ventures.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You will get all the help you need if you are willing to take a leadership position. Your compassionate nature will enable you to help those less fortunate. You may meet someone special through an organization you join.

Birthday Baby: You will be creative in your professional pursuits. You will get along well with your peers and will work well with others. You will always incorporate unique ideas into any project. You will strive to do as much as possible and often take on too much.

DAILY CROSSWORD

TMSPuzzles@aol.com



By Jim Page
New York, NY

5/28/02

ACROSS

1 Desert Storm missile
5 Transmitted
9 Wood-shaping machine
14 Riding game
15 Beehive State
16 Singer Merman
17 Isaac's eldest
18 Reasonable
19 Rides air currents
20 Waltz to victory
23 Nobelist Morrison
24 Sea wiggler
25 Pompous fool
28 Serving to make one
31 Wail like a baby
34 Of the Arctic
36 "Much ___ About Nothing"
37 Pieces of pelvises
38 Hit speed-dial
42 Riga resident
43 China's Chairman
44 Belief
45 Wynn and McMahon
46 Last of twelve
49 BSA relative
50 Org.
51 State on Lake Erie
53 Prove right of passage
61 Donnybrook
62 Teammate of Spahn
63 Fever and shivers
64 Cathedral instrument
65 Eager
66 Window part
67 Domesticated ruminants
68 Bogs
69 March date

DOWN

1 Gush forth
2 Mozart opera, "___ fan Tutti"
3 ___ Bator
4 Distrust
5 "Valley of the Dolls" writer
6 & others: Lat.
7 Anna Sten film
8 At that time
9 Renter
10 Ring in the ocean
11 Siamese, today
12 Sheepdog's charges
13 Besides
21 "___ So Vain"
22 County of SW England
25 Newton's fruit
26 Did some cobblers' work
27 Blind strips
29 Lake near Reno
30 Marriage vow
31 Loud, resonant, metallic sound
32 Ticks off
33 1945 conference site
35 Do something
37 Bar rocks
39 Sunoco rival
40 La ___, Bolivia
41 Moral standard
46 Senior men
47 Thought
48 Objects
50 Workout wetness
52 Giraffe's cousin
53 Smoky fog
54 Man of courage
55 Gymnast Korbut
56 Branch of the mil.
57 Temper tantrum
58 Zoundsl
59 Melody
60 Gets the point

Monday's Puzzle Solved

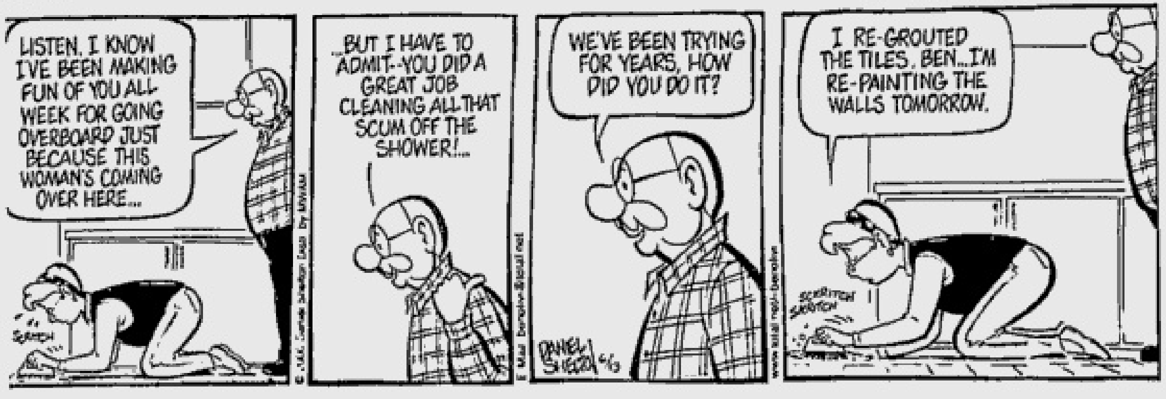
T	A	N	K	S		B	E	N	S		E	C	H	O
A	V	O	I	R		A	L	O	E		D	H	O	W
B	O	T	T	O	M	L	I	N	E		W	O	O	L
S	W	A	B		E	S	T	E	S		A	R	T	E
			A	D	L	A	I		T	H	R	U	S	T
D	O	D	G	E	D		S	N	O	O	D	S		
I	D	O		S	E	T	T	E		I	S	L	A	M
M	I	T		E	D	A		A	M	S		I	R	A
E	N	T	E	R		M	A	R	A	T		N	A	S
		E	N	V	I	E	R		R	E	P	E	L	S
S	A	D	D	E	N		N	A	L	D	I			
H	I	L	O		K	L	I	N	E		L	A	S	H
E	M	I	R		P	I	C	K	E	T	L	I	N	E
L	E	N	S		A	D	A	H		N	A	D	I	R
F	R	E	E		D	O	S	S		T	R	A	P	S

(C)2002 Tribune Media Services, Inc. All rights reserved.

5/28/02

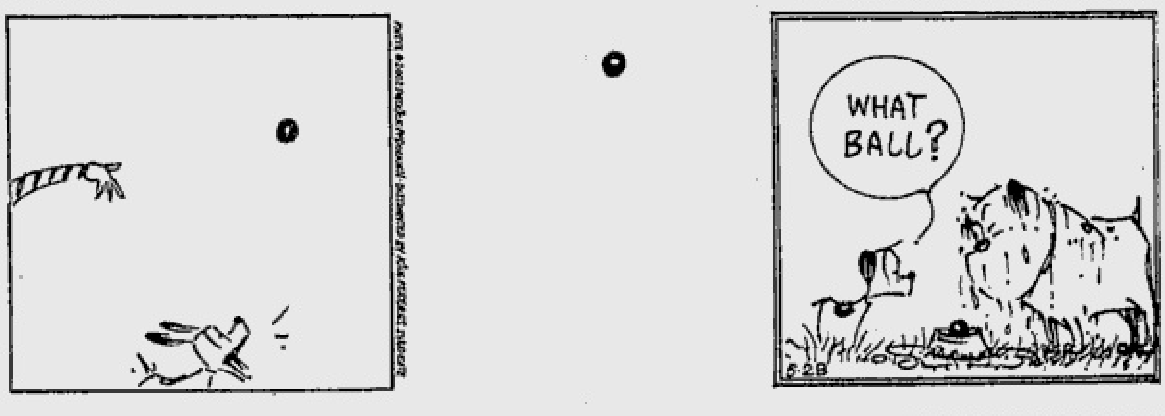
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


LISTEN, I KNOW I'VE BEEN MAKING FUN OF YOU ALL WEEK FOR GOING OVERBOARD JUST BECAUSE THIS WOMAN'S COMING OVER HERE...
SCRATCH
...BUT I HAVE TO ADMIT--YOU DID A GREAT JOB CLEANING ALL THAT SCUM OFF THE SHOWER!...
WE'VE BEEN TRYING FOR YEARS, HOW DID YOU DO IT?
DANIEL SHELTON
I RE-GROUTED THE TILES, BEN...I'M RE-PAINTING THE WALLS TOMORROW.
SCRITCH SCRATCH

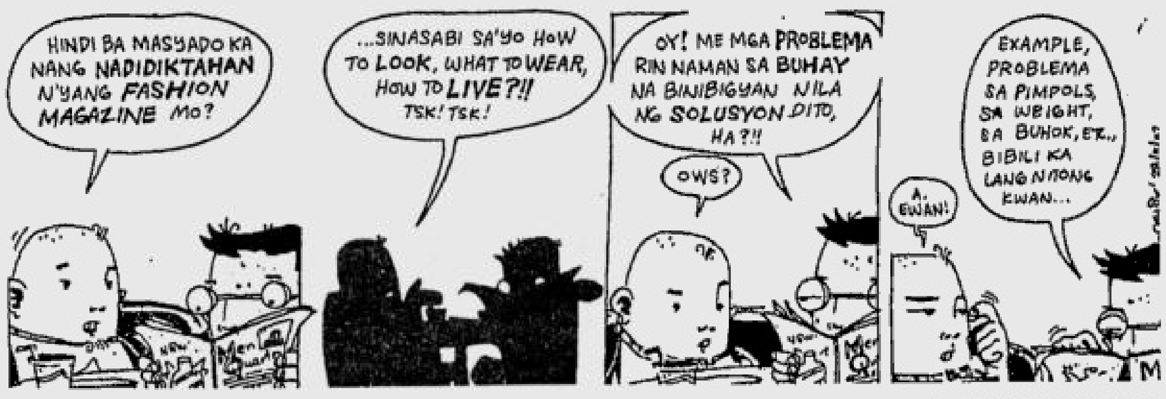
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


WHAT BALL?
5·28

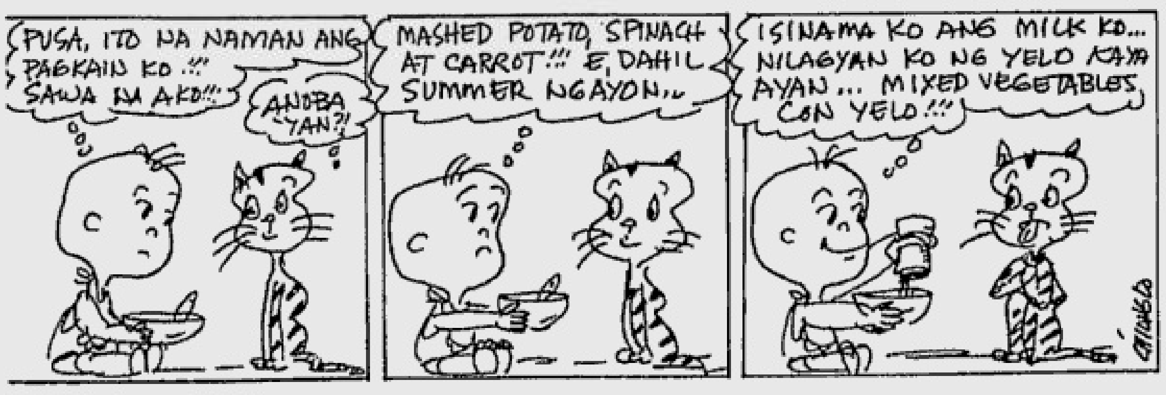
KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA


HINDI BA MASYADO KA NANG NADIDIKTAHAN N'YANG FASHION MAGAZINE MO?
...SINASABI SA'YO HOW TO LOOK, WHAT TO WEAR, HOW TO LIVE?!! TSK! TSK!
OY! ME MGA PROBLEMA RIN NAMAN SA BUHAY NA BINIBIGYAN NILA NG SOLUSYON DITO, HA?!!
OWS?
EXAMPLE, PROBLEMA SA PIMPOLS, SA WEIGHT, SA BUHOK, ETC., BIBILI KA LANG N'TONG KWAN...
A. EWAN!

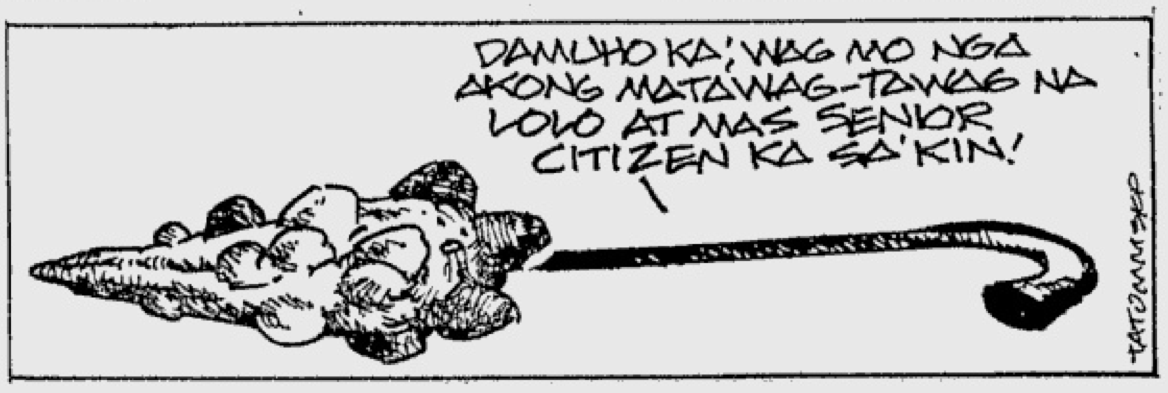
LOVEKNOTS

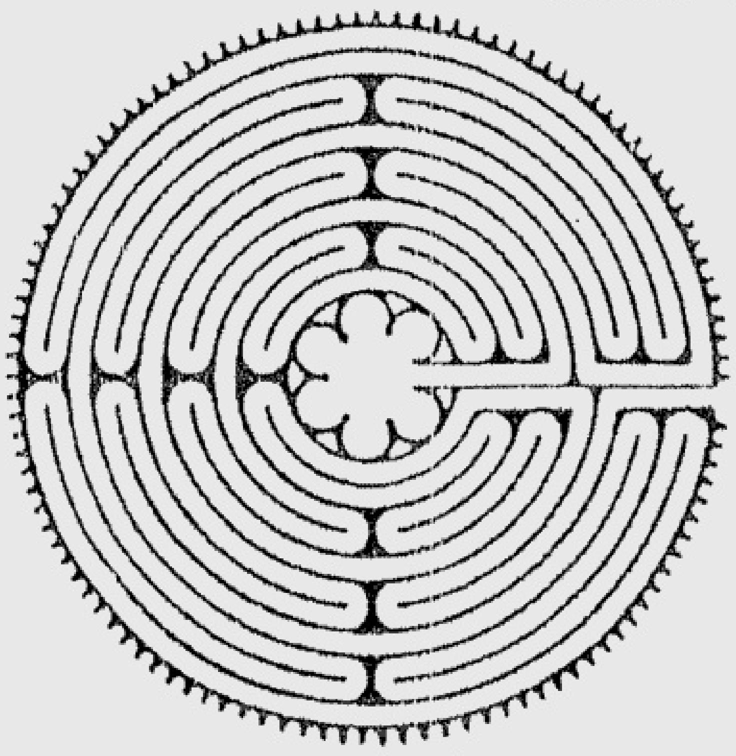
BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


PUSA, ITO NA NAMAN ANG PAGKAIN KO..!! SAWA NA AKO!!!
ANOBA 'YAN?!
MASHED POTATO, SPINACH AT CARROT!!! E, DAHIL SUMMER NGAYON..
ISINAMA KO ANG MILK KO... NILAGYAN KO NG YELO KAYA AYAN... MIXED VEGETABLES CON YELO!!!
CHIONGLO

TULDOK

BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING


DAMUHO KA; WAG MO NGA AKONG MATAWAG-TAWAG NA LOLO AT MAS SENIOR CITIZEN KA SA'KIN!
TATUM AND PAP



Labyrinth as metaphor for the healing journey

INNER AWARENESS

Jaime T. Licauco

FULLERTON, California—I didn't realize there's so much interest in labyrinths in America today. According to one book I recently bought here, the Internet had 9,636 sites featuring the labyrinth.

What is a labyrinth? It is nothing more than a roundabout path leading somewhere. The first time I came across that word was in my readings on Greek mythology. It told of a monster called the Minotaur, a half-man, half-bull who lived at the center of the labyrinth. The hero, Theseus, had to find his way through the labyrinth to kill the monster, and succeeded in doing so. This happened on the Greek island of Crete. That's why one form of the labyrinth is called Cretan. The other form is patterned after the 13th-century labyrinth in the Chartres church in France.

I had forgotten the story of the Minotaur and the labyrinth. But several years ago, I saw a flyer of a labyrinth from an American organization, and for some reason kept it in my files. There it lay undisturbed for about four or five years. Then, when Art Cataquiz started developing his mountain retreat in Lukban, Quezon, I thought it would be a good idea to add a labyrinth as a feature of the place. When I told him about it, he at once agreed, and now a Chartres type labyrinth can be found on the floor of the large social hall he built in that mystic place he calls Ciudad Verdadera. It could very well be the first labyrinth in the Philippines.

A labyrinth is not a maze. It has been described as unicursal, meaning it has only one route to the center and back again. It has no blind alleys, dead ends or tricks like a maze.

According to Melissa Gayle West, author of the book "Exploring the Labyrinth, A Guide for Healing and Spiritual Growth," the labyrinth is "one of the oldest contemplative and transformational tools known to humankind, used for centuries for prayer, ritual, initiation and personal and spiritual growth...There is only one route to the center. No matter where you are in the labyrinth's coherent circuits, you can always see the center. Once you set foot upon the path, the labyrinth gently and faultlessly leads you to the center of both the labyrinth and yourself, no matter how many twists and turns you negotiate in the process."

I walked through the labyrinth in Ciudad Verdadera in Lukban, Quezon to see if it really would have any effect on me, and it had! I was tired from going up and down the miraculous spring when I started walking the labyrinth. Halfway in the walk, I noticed my tiredness was completely gone. I arrived at the center of the labyrinth completely refreshed. A mysterious energy seems to build up around a person as he walks in the labyrinth.

The labyrinth reproduced in Cataquiz's mystic place in Lukban is the Chartres type. It is named after the permanent stone labyrinth on the floor of the Chartres Church in France. The church was built in the 13th century, but the labyrinth is much older than that. It has 11 concentric paths that wind through four quadrants of a circle. West says, "It is a distinctly Christian pattern, an equal armed cross visible in its elegant layout. Set in the center is a rosette, a six-petalled design representing a rose, the traditional symbol for the Virgin Mary."

According to existing literature on the labyrinth, many have experienced miraculous healing and inner transformation by simply walking in it. No one knows why. It has been said that the "labyrinth space is not only sacred space; it is a magical space as well where anything can and does happen."

West lists down in her book six benefits we can derive by walking the labyrinth: deepening our spirituality, fostering inwardness and connection to our soul, access to our in tuition and creativity, fostering simplicity, developing integration of body and spirit and fostering our feelings of intimacy and community.

"The labyrinth's ancient power derives from the fact that it is an archetypal map of the healing journey," says West. "The walk itself is a potent physical metaphor for the journeys of healing, spiritual and emotional growth, and transformation. In walking the labyrinth, we start at the perimeter. The path of the labyrinth, like any journey, has its own twists and turns, sometimes drawing near to and then away from the center.

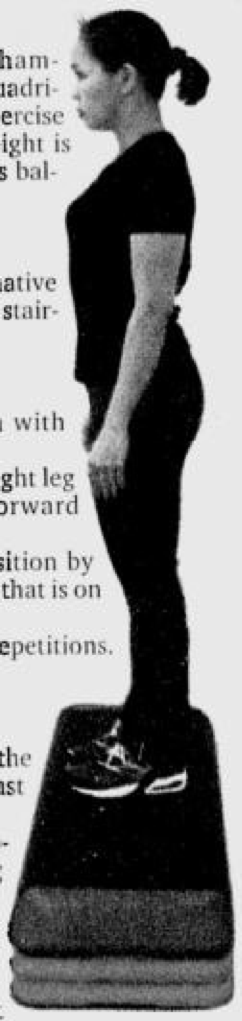
"It is only by keeping to the path, step by step, twist by turn, that one arrives at the physical center of the labyrinth, which signifies arriving at the center of our own lives and souls."

No wonder labyrinths have been sprouting in so many places in the United States, from residential backyards, school grounds and campuses to churches, hospitals and even prisons. Hopefully, the labyrinth that Cataquiz built in Lukban, Quezon will spark interest in this ancient transformational tool in the Philippines.

Address letters to this column to 308 Prince Plaza I, 106 Legaspi St., Greenbelt, Makati City or e-mail jlicauco@edsamail.com.ph. Visit my website at http://j.licauco.tripod.com. Listen to my dzMM radio program every Sunday, 6-8 p.m.

EXERCISE OF THE WEEK

Step bench backward lunge



STRENGTHENS the buttocks, hamstrings (back of the thigh) and quadriceps (front of the thigh). This exercise is challenging because all the weight is placed on one leg. It also requires balance.

Equipment:

Step aerobics bench (an alternative at home is the bottom step of your staircase)

Exercise technique:

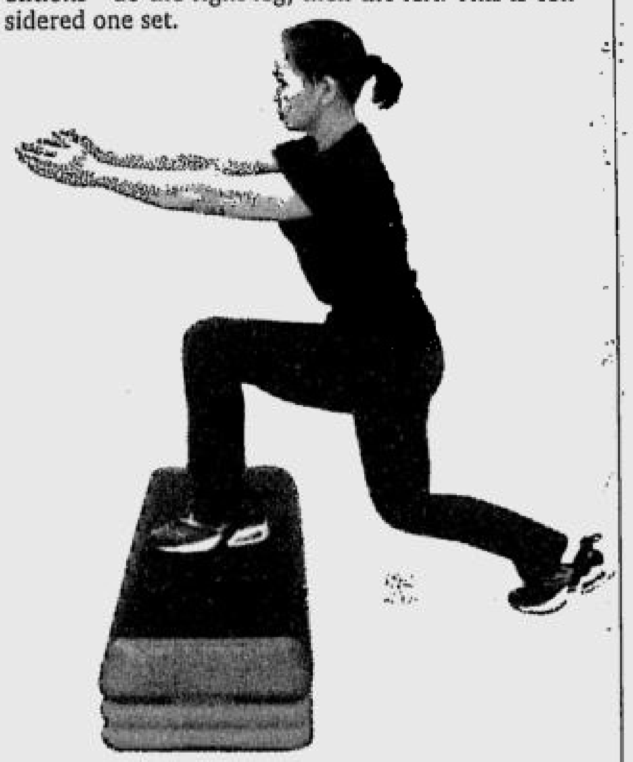
1. Stand on top of the bench with your feet slightly apart.
2. Lunge backward with your right leg as you simultaneously reach forward with both arms.
3. Go back to the starting position by contracting the muscles in the leg that is on the bench.
4. Do the desired number of repetitions. Rest. Do the other side.

Performance tips:

1. On the leg that remains on the bench, avoid bringing the knee past the toes as you lunge backward.
2. Do not focus on how low toward the floor you should bring the knee of the lunging leg. Instead, focus on keeping your balance.
3. The weight of your body should be kept over the leg that remains on the bench. Use the lunging leg simply for balance by touching the floor only with the balls of the foot.

Repetitions:

Do 8-10 repetitions per leg. Rest. Do another set if you want to. Another option is to do alternating repetitions—do the right leg, then the left. This is considered one set.



Electronic

From page C1

there are no magic pills, potions or pulsators for losing weight and getting into shape. The only winning combination is changing your diet and exercise."

Next week: Find out how scientific research is misused in TV infomercials for electronic ab belts.

The American Council on Exercise (ACE) Exam will be held on July 27 and Nov. 9. To prepare, participants are encouraged to join the Basic Instructor Course and/or ACE Review Course by the Association of Fitness Professionals of the Philippines. Classes start on May 31. Call Doris at 850-7647.

Watch "In Fitness & In Health" on Studio 23, Mondays to Fridays, 6-6:30 a.m.

For past articles or exercises, go to www.tinajuanfitness.com

ICE CREAM Nestlé SCOOP A MILLION

Congratulations to the first batch of winners!

Abelardo John Fabian Pamintuan of GMA Grand Prize Winner, Honda Civic Vti Manual

Fe Santander–Winner Sony Handycam Diliman, QC.

Ligaya Briones–Winner P5,000 San Fernando, Pampanga

Camilo Villanueva–Winner P 10,000 La Union

Ten (10) ₱10,000

Fifty (50) ₱5,000

Ten Thousand (10,000) ₱100

Hurry!
Scoop a Million now.
Two ONE MILLION PESO chips are still up for grabs.
Promo ends June 30, 2002.

five (5) Portable DVD Players

five (5) Sony Handycams

five (5) Sony Flat-Vega 21

PLUS thousands of free Nestlé Ice Cream Pints

HOW TO JOIN:

1. This is an instant win promotion! You may win by finding a round plastic chip inside a 900mL, Half-Gallon or Gallon of Nestlé Ice Cream Supreme, Classic or 1.5L Flavor of the Month. The chip will indicate the prize won.

2. When claiming a major prize, follow the instructions written at the back panel of the winning plastic chip. Keep the winning chip. You need to present this to the Nestlé Philippines, Inc - Ice Cream Division and DOH-BFAD representatives.

3. Only Genuine and Original chips shall be honored for redemption of prizes. Tampered, broken, deformed or mutilated chips will disqualify you or any other winner from claiming the indicated prize. Only Nestlé Philippines Inc., - Ice Cream Division executives, together with DOH-BFAD representatives will verify the genuineness of the chip.

4. All prizes are tax paid. No fees are required to claim prizes.

5. Promo period is from March 1 to June 30, 2002.

6. Prizes not claimed after sixty (60) days from the last day of the promotional period (June 30, 2002) will be forfeited. Any winning chip claimed after August 31, 2002 will not be valid.

7. Employees of Nestlé Philippines, Inc., and its Agencies, Vassar Industries and DOH-BFAD as well as their relatives up to the 2nd civil degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified from joining this promotion.

8. All major prizes are convertible to cash except for the five (5) Portable DVD players, five (5) Sony Handycams, five (5) Sony Flat - Vega 21 and Nestlé Ice Cream pints.

9. All travel prizes will cover only economy airfare expenses via airline to be chosen by Nestlé. US VISA is not guaranteed for winners of the US trip.

SCOOP THE LUCKY CHIP FROM ANY One Gallon, Half Gallon or 900mL of Nestlé Ice Cream or Flavor of the Month 1.5L

BONUS! You can also join the Nestlé Ice Cream Scoop-A-Million Text Challenge and get a chance to win a Nokia 5510 weekly! Just text "NESTLE ICE CREAM" to 23302 (Globe) or 24302 (Smart/Talk 'n Text) and follow the easy directions! This promotion runs until June 30, 2002.

Powered by bws

TRIMLINE Built Tough to Last
Made in U.S.A.

The world's top-selling mid-priced treadmill offers the best value for money.
Get a FREE POLAR. Beat heart rate monitor for every purchase of Trimline 2600.

Offer good while supplies last, Trimline treadmills are available at the following Toby's outlets nationwide:
Shangri-La Plaza • Robinson's Galleria • Park Square 1 • Glorietta 2 • Harrison Plaza • SM City Manila • SM City Bacoor • SM City Fairview • SM City North EDSA
SM Megamall • SM Centerpoint • Festival Supermall • SM Southmall • Cabanatuan City • Biñan • San Pablo City • Batangas City • SM City Pampanga • SM City Cebu
Ayala Center Cebu • Iloilo City • Davao City • Cagayan de Oro City • Iligan City • Zamboanga City

NOW OPEN TOBY'S BIÑAN, ROBINSONS METRO EAST, ROBINSONS PLACE ILOILO, SM CITY DAVAO. SOON TO OPEN TOBY'S SM PODIUM.

TOBY'S
Live Life, Play Sports.
www.tobys.com

Questions on how to look and feel good

ILLUSTRATION: STEPH BRAVO

I AM giving way to numerous questions sent to me in order to be of help to all of you.

Salt baths

I would like to know if I still have to wash the solution off my body after scrubbing with the salt and oil solution.

AU AND WENG

INSIDE OUT

Cory Quirino

Please send me more information on salt bath because it is very helpful.

JEFF

Salt baths have been known for ages as an effective way to cleanse and exfoliate. Salt is also considered by many healers as having the power to absorb negative energy. Thus, healers believe that if sickness manifests in the spiritual psychic phase before it becomes a physical symptom, then it is possible to cleanse one's aura. And salt bath combined with meditation, prayer and positive affirmations can dispel sickness (assuming, of course, you have been taking good care of your body).

Simply mix 2 cups of sea salt in a bathtub of warm water. Your visualization should be a clean and radiant aura. Those who wish to do a beauty body scrub may mix ½ cup of sea salt with 2 tbsp light baby oil and rub upward toward the neck from the soles of the feet. Stop when you feel your skin tingle. Rinse with cool or tepid water immediately after the rub, then soap your body. You may use moisturizer all over your skin after the shower.

Pigmentation

Some remedy on how to get rid of brown spots on my face?

NAME WITHHELD

Any discoloration on the skin may be due to a pigmentation problem caused by many factors from stress, hormonal changes, using the pill to overexposure of the sun.

Since I do not know your history, I will still assume yours is due to sun exposure. An immediate remedy is to have the pigmentation undergo painless laser treatment. You may have to have two to three treatments as brown spots do recur. As a preventive measure, wear a sunblock (SPF 20, minimum) every day, and shield your face from the sun with an umbrella or fan as I do.

Glowing skin

I want my mom to glow. I can't afford surgery on bleaching program. Please help me.

SLEY

How can I have beautiful skin like yours?

JEAN

A glowing skin doesn't come by accident, unless you inherited great skin genes from both of your parents. Nevertheless, there are rules to follow in order to maintain it.

Your lifestyle should include exercise, a low-fat, low-sugar, low-sodium eating plan, 8-10 glasses of water daily, 6-8 hours of sleep every night (preferably before midnight), a vitamin-mineral supplement daily plus an extra dosage of Vitamin B (50 mg), C (1,000 mg) and E (400 mg). Avoid sun exposure and apply sunblock on your face daily. Cleanse and exfoliate once a week and moisturize the skin.

Apart from body regimen, there is need for a mind-calming program to combat stress. This is the reason true health must involve both the mind and the body.

Prayer and meditation are a powerful mind and spirit relaxing combination that can keep one centered.

Is sex fitness really possible?

JOHN

Yes, it is. Its health formula is the usual standard fitness program, but with emphasis on specific vitamin-mineral-herbal supplements for men and women.

There are numerous questions and concerns that need to be addressed. While I wish to accommodate them all, space constraints do not. I will be pleased to answer the rest of you, dear readers, by e-mail or until the next Q&A in June.

Until then, love and light!

* * *

My recently launched book, "Forever Young—Guide to Beauty and Wellness," is now available at National Bookstore and PowerBooks, and soon at Page One. I wish to thank all my sponsors, donors and friends who supported the fitness weekend at the Power Plant Mall, Rockwell Center, Makati City.

By June, I will be giving mini beauty wellness lectures in a book-signing gym tour organized by my publisher, Anvil.

See you in your favorite gym!

E-mail the author at coryquirino_fy @yahoo.com

Chest convention in Tarlac

"TOOLS and Strategies in Pulmonary Medicine" is the theme of this year's ninth postgraduate course of the American College of Chest Physicians-Philippine Chapter on June 7 and 8 at the Benigno Aquino Center, Luisita, Tarlac City. The Tarlac Medical Society is cohosting the event.

Leading pulmonary experts will be lecturing, including Dr. Dina Diaz, Dr. Joselito Chavez, Dr. Ricardo Zotomayor, Dr. Bella Siasoco and Dr. Luisito Idolor.

The scientific program will cover the latest on diseases like asthma, TB, COPD, cancer and pneumonia. There will be five plenary sessions and seven symposia, which are open to all participants, primarily pulmonologists, family physicians, internists and pediatricians.

The ACCP organizing committee is headed by Dr. Benjamin S. Lazo, president; Dr. Tito C. Atienza, overall chair; and Dr. Isaias Lanzona, scientific chair. The Tarlac Medical Society has Dr. Shelley Ann M. Mangahas as its overall chair.

Call the secretariat at 724-8536.

ARENA'S collection is designed for world-class swimmers. PHOTO: ROMY HOMILLADA

Swimwear for competition and leisure

ARENA has officially launched its new line of swimwear for competition and leisure on May 22 at the Hotel Inter-Continental poolside.

Hosted by Alex Aquino, Grasim Mr. International 2001, the show highlighted the features that make Arena a leading swimwear brand in Europe—functional, versatile, stylish and made with the aid of the latest in technology.

Beauty queens and their male counterparts modeled the revolutionary outfits to the musical selection of DJ Edge of Groove Nation. Highlight of the evening was a synchronized swimming number by the Aquabelle Swimmers.

During the launch, it was announced that Arena would be the official outfitter of the Philippine Amateur Swimming Association.

Guest performers for the occasion were the Brownbeat All-Stars.

Arena is at the forefront of engineered swimwear. Composed of 10 Olympic champions, Team Arena was formed in 1977 to demonstrate that Arena products perform flawlessly under the most intense conditions.

Arena is particularly known for its Spiral line. Through the creation of a unique spiral pattern—fine grooves are woven into specially treated fabrics and very fine threads are used in weaving—water-flow resistance is reduced and lightness achieved.

Arena's swimwear collection is designed for all kinds of swimmers. It endures severe, no-nonsense testing and evaluated world-class swimmers. Aside from swimsuits, Arena also offers goggles, swim caps, body dry towels, hydraboards, pullbuoys, hand paddles, earplugs and nose clips. Arena has developed a range of swimming aids for children integrating safety measures—Arm Bands, Swim Rings and Aqua Nappies.

Arena products are available at The Arena Concept Shop at The Podium, Planet Sports, The Athletes Foot, Olympic Village Alabang Town Center, Toby's Arena, Rustan's Makati, Rustan's Shangri-La Edsa and other leading outlets nationwide.

Take Charge Doc!
Nicky S. Montoya, M.D.
MEDICard

Looking to learn more about your benefits under your MEDICard coverage? Do you want to be clear on the procedures, which allow you to avail of MEDICard's services? Get your information straight from MEDICard's Medical Director, DR. NICKY S. MONTOYA every Tuesday.

FAQs (frequently asked questions)

Are acupuncture and accupressure covered under my healthcare plan with MEDICard?

Acupuncture and accupressure are not covered procedures under our healthcare program. These age-old methods, though may have presented beneficial effects in some studies and research, are still considered as experimental methods of medicine. These experimental medical procedures, which also include reflexology and chiropractics and the like are exclusions to our program.

Meet your MEDICard Team

Dr. Dante L. Haw is MEDICard's accredited specialist based in the World Citi Medical Center, formerly QCMC. Doc Dante, a Medicine graduate of UERM-MMC specializes in General Surgery and subspecializes in Colon and Rectal Surgery. He has been in the practice of his profession for more than 18 years now. Dr. Haw is a Fellow to the Southern California Society of Colo-Rectal Surgeons, the Philippine College of Surgeons and the Philippine Society of General Surgeons. You may visit him for your consultation needs at room 202 of the World Citi Medical Center every Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 10 AM to 12 noon.

Assistant Medical Director and MEDICard accredited medical service provider to the Ago Foundation Hospital in Naga City is **Dr. Carmenchu B. Rueda**. Dr. Carmenchu is a Medicine graduate from the University of Santo Tomas and specializes in Internal Medicine, where she received her residency training from De Los Santos Medical Center. Doc Menchu, as she is known to most of her patients, is an affiliate member of the Philippine College of Physicians and a member of the Medicus et Vitae Confraternity of UST. During her free time, she is fond of swimming and on occasions, does target shooting. Visit Dr. Menchu Rueda for your consultation needs at the Ago Foundation Hospital from Mondays to Fridays, 8 AM to 12 noon and from 1 to 5 in the afternoon. She is also available during Saturdays from 9 AM to 12 noon.

Dr. Luz De Guzman-Villanueva is one of MEDICard's accredited dentists based in the Las Piñas area. Doc Luz, as she is to most of her patients is a Dentistry graduate at Centro Escolar University. She specializes in Orthodontic and Aesthetic dentistry, which she has been in the practice of for more than 16 years now. She is a model mother with three children. Even with her hectic and very tight schedule, she still finds time for her family, and whenever possible, join them in their activities. You may visit Dr. Luz for your dental needs at her clinic at Unit 8, Elena Bldg., Zapote-Alabang Rd., Las Piñas City from Mondays to Fridays, 9 AM to 6 PM.

We encourage all MEDICard members to voice out their concerns and issues at hand. BE HEARD AND BE READ. You can write DR. NICKY S. MONTOYA at 9/F Sagittarius Bldg. H.V. De la Costa St., Salcedo Village, Makati City or e-mail him at inquiry@medicardphils.com. For feedback on availment of our services, e-mail us at feedback@medicardphils.com.

For inquiries on individual or family membership, dial 840 -2020 local 2017 and look for Ms. Joy Mendiola. For group or corporate membership, dial local 2049 and look for a membership consultant.

TEXT MEDICard for your queries: 0917-7518365 (Globe) or 0919-2476240 (Smart). Please don't forget to include your complete name and landline number where MEDICard could reach you. Log on to www.medicardphils.com.

MEDICard is the first and only HMO in the Philippines and the whole Asian region to be ISO 9002 certified.

ISO 9002

Why are most Europeans so slim?

Introducing the country's ONLY Essential CARBOHYDRATE REGULATOR from Europe...

New!

ALL NATURAL EXOCAL® Essential Carbohydrate Regulator ROEHR

BFAD Approval FR-25221

EXOCAL® is a breakthrough dietary formulation that helps control excess carbohydrate intake the natural way.
- Increases energy levels
- Safe and effective
- Accelerates metabolism

Creates a unique approach towards effective weight management when combined with EXO FAT Forte

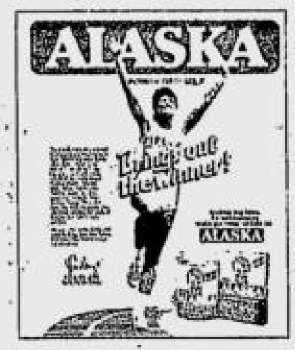
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL:
Tel. Nos. (02) 638-1691 to 93
Call Center is available Mondays thru Fridays 8am to 7pm and Saturdays 8am to 12nn only.
ROEHR nature + science
email: exocal@wroehr.com

AVAILABLE AT LEADING DRUGSTORES NATIONWIDE

30 YEARS

ALASKA®

ALASKA MILK CORPORATION

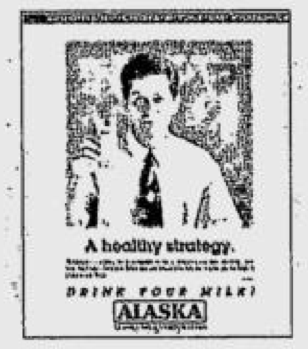
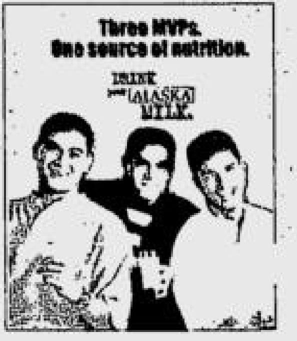
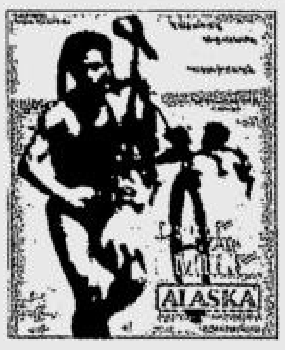

ALASKA
Bring out the winner!
ALASKA

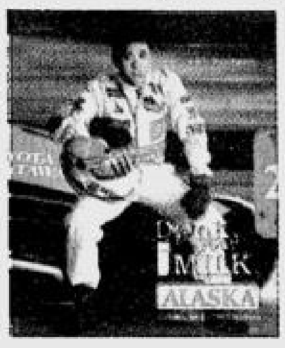
Nutrition for a song.
DRINK YOUR MILK!
ALASKA

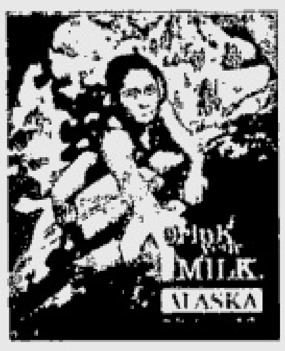
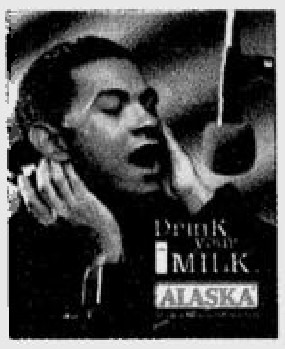
Advantage: Milk
DRINK YOUR MILK!
ALASKA

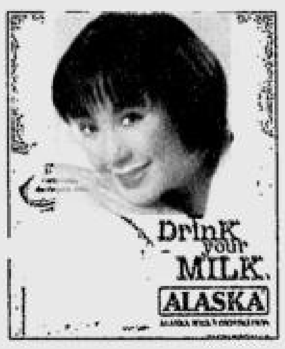
Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
DRINK YOUR MILK!
ALASKA

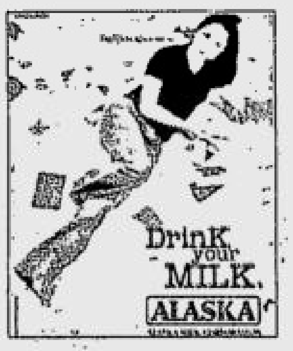
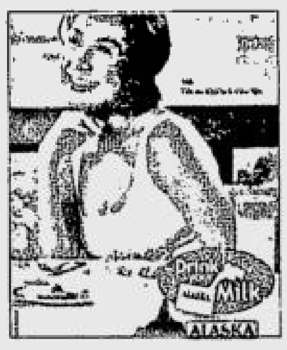
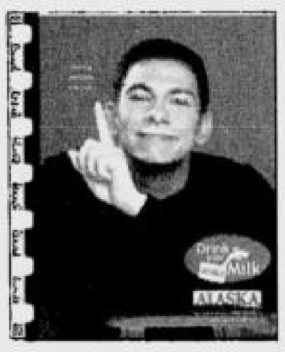
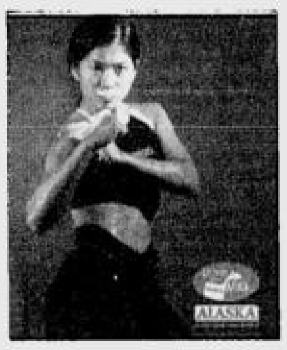
Hot Stuff.
DRINK YOUR MILK!
ALASKA

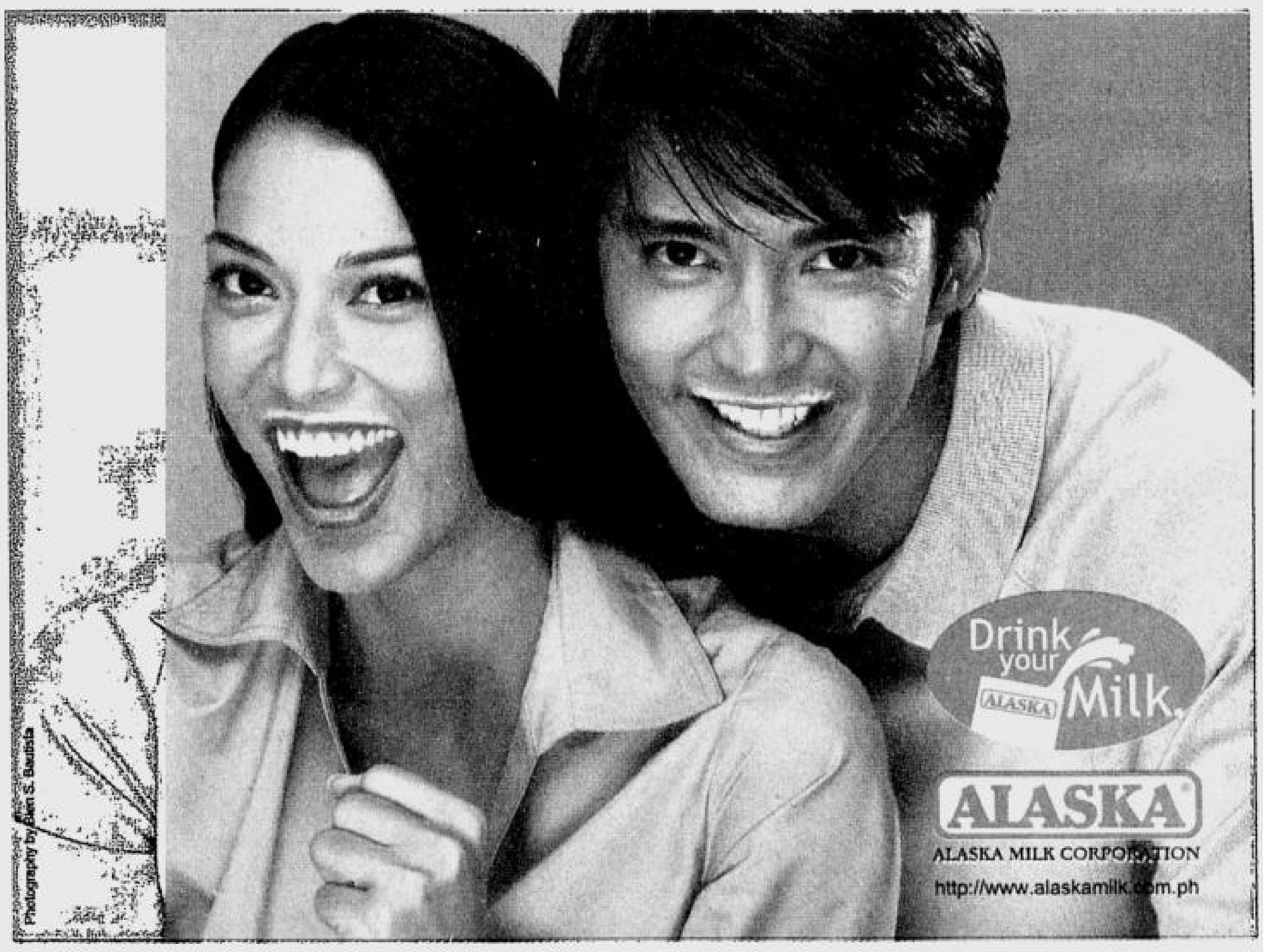
A solid platform.
DRINK YOUR MILK!
ALASKA

A healthy strategy.
DRINK YOUR MILK!
ALASKA

Three MVPs.
One source of nutrition.
DRINK your ALASKA MILK.



Drink your MILK
ALASKA

Drink your MILK.
ALASKA

Drink your MILK.
ALASKA

Drink your MILK.
ALASKA


Drink your MILK.
ALASKA

Drink your MILK.
ALASKA

Drink your MILK.
ALASKA

Drink your Milk
ALASKA

Drink your Milk
ALASKA


Drink your Milk
ALASKA

Photography by Ben S. Bautista
Drink your ALASKA Milk.
ALASKA®
ALASKA MILK CORPORATION
http://www.alaskamilk.com.ph

The backbone of Alaska for 30 years.

Milk has always been a part of our lives. From the day we are born, our first taste of nourishment comes from milk. It has the calcium we need for bone health and proper functioning of the rest of our body. But who would have known that it is also a vital part in the growth of a Filipino-owned company? Such is the case of Alaska Milk Corporation.

Milk Matters

In 1972, Alaska Milk Corporation began caring for the Filipino family by providing quality milk products for good nutrition and health. Amazingly, a year after its launch, Alaska already achieved the status of brand leader. In 1976, Alaska launched its first advertising endeavor, the "One-on-One" campaign which featured basketball star, Cisco Oliver and the Alaska boy, Michael. This was the first time consumers heard the now-immortal line, "Galing mo, man!" and Alaska's long-standing tagline, "Wala pa ring tatalo sa Alaska." This campaign was extended to feature soccer and tennis. "One-on-One" also bagged awards of excellence in advertising.

To cope with the changing times, Alaska contemporized its labels as well as its advertising campaigns that encouraged the use of Alaska liquid milk in food preparations, thus extending the need for Alaska milk for consumers. With a franchise in the Philippine Basketball Association in 1986, Alaska strengthened its support for sports. This was evident in the launch of its sports series campaign, which featured Asia's "Sprint Queen", Lydia de Vega. With its basketball team, Alaska launched a public service campaign that promoted good values among Filipino children through sports.

We Got Milk

Alaska teamed up with the National Nutrition Council in 1995, and they helped push the habit of milk-drinking among Filipinos with the "Drink your Milk" campaign, which featured Pops Fernandez and her sons. This project was inspired by the international "Milk Moustache" campaign led by the National Milk Processors of the U.S. Celebrity endorsers were featured in this successful campaign. Among them were Megastar Sharon Cuneta and "Pure Energy" entertainer, Gary Valenciano. The list of endorsers was as varied as the messages each ad conveyed, which primarily revolved around the importance of milk in daily nutrition -- there was "Traffic Angel" Pia Guanio, race car driver J.P. Tuason, young star Judy Ann Santos and television game show host, Christopher de Leon.

Nourishing the Filipino for 30 Years

Through programs that supported sports development, advertising campaigns that fostered good values among children, and product innovations that aimed at enhancing the Filipino's health and welfare, Alaska has proven that it's one milk brand that is tough to beat. Now, who says you can't survive on milk alone, certainly Alaska has... for 30 years.

COMMITTED TO THE CORPORATE VISION, COMMITTED TO NUTRITION.

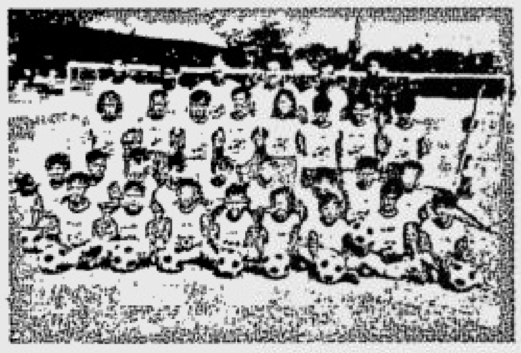
For 30 years, Alaska Milk Corporation has been known to be one of the leading manufacturers of milk products in the country. It has established a strong brand heritage among Filipino consumers, with its traditional canned milk products as well as its powdered milk and ready-to-drink milk line. But Alaska's commitment to bringing superior nutrition doesn't end with the production of quality milk products. Alaska extended this with the establishment of nutrition programs that delivered the message of health and nutrition to each and every Filipino home.

Back To School, Back To Milk-Drinking: Alaska School Milk Program

Established in 1991, the School Milk Program has been a long-term campaign, collaborated on by the government & private sectors worldwide, with Alaska being its leading supporter from the private sector in the Philippines. This aimed to strengthen the need to provide proper nutrition to school children, 6-10 years of age. With the help of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS), the Violeta Calvo Drilon Foundation, Inc., WG&A Philippines, Tetra Pak Philippines, Inc. and the Office of the Senate President Franklin Drilon,.Alaska supplied milk to public schools throughout the country, targeting Grade 1 children who were primarily identified as undernourished. By the end of the year 2000, the program was successful in instilling the habit of regular milk drinking as well as educating both parents and teachers on the importance of milk in the diet of schoolchildren as it was able to address the health and nutritional deficiencies of more than 100,000 children nationwide.

Milk, The Power Drink: Alaska Power Camp

Sports has also been an ideal medium for underlining the importance of proper nutrition as part of the Filipino youth's overall health. This brought about the launching of the Alaska Power Camp, which helped develop not only the athletic skills of kids but also instilled in them the discipline and the right mental attitude needed to be well-rounded adults.



The Power Team: Alaska Aces

In 1986, Alaska obtained a franchise in the Philippine Basketball Association (PBA), the country's most popular athletic professional league. Since its debut, Team Alaska has made an indelible mark in Philippine basketball history with ten championship titles, making it the team with most wins in the 90's. All team members serve as role models for the Filipino youth, imbibing the values of discipline, hard work, teamwork and determination. Players Jojo Lastimosa, Kenneth Duremdes and Coach Tim Cone, as well as the other current team members were and still are considered heroes on and off the court. Team Alaska itself lives up to the very essence of the Alaska sports development program, which is to play a role in forming the minds of the Filipino youth.

AD-ded Nutrition: Alaska's Advertising Campaigns

In support of and inspired by the international "Got Milk?" campaign, Alaska launched its own print advertising campaign to help increase the level of milk consumption in the country.

The main message that this campaign conveyed was the simple idea that to achieve superior performance, you need the superior nutrition of milk. Celebrities who donned the "Milk Moustache" included singer Pops Fernandez, prima ballerina Lisa Macuja-Elizalde and even Taebo instructor Vanessa Garcia. This campaign was launched in 1995 and lasted till early 2002. An evolution of this campaign is in the offing, which will further dramatize the amazing effects of milk-drinking and will feature new celebrities and personalities.

During the last quarter of 2001, Alaska launched a campaign that was a breakthrough in milk advertising. It pointed out a phenomenon that affects children between 4-12 years old. Coined the "Growth Gap", this became a veritable cause for alarm among parents. Thus, the need for superior nutrition was heightened and Alaska milk was needed even more. The advertising portrayed celebrity endorser, Gary Valenciano differently. In it, Gary talked to parents not as a celebrity, but as a parent himself. The campaign garnered a record-breaking increase in the sales of Alaska Powdered Filled Milk by the end of the year.

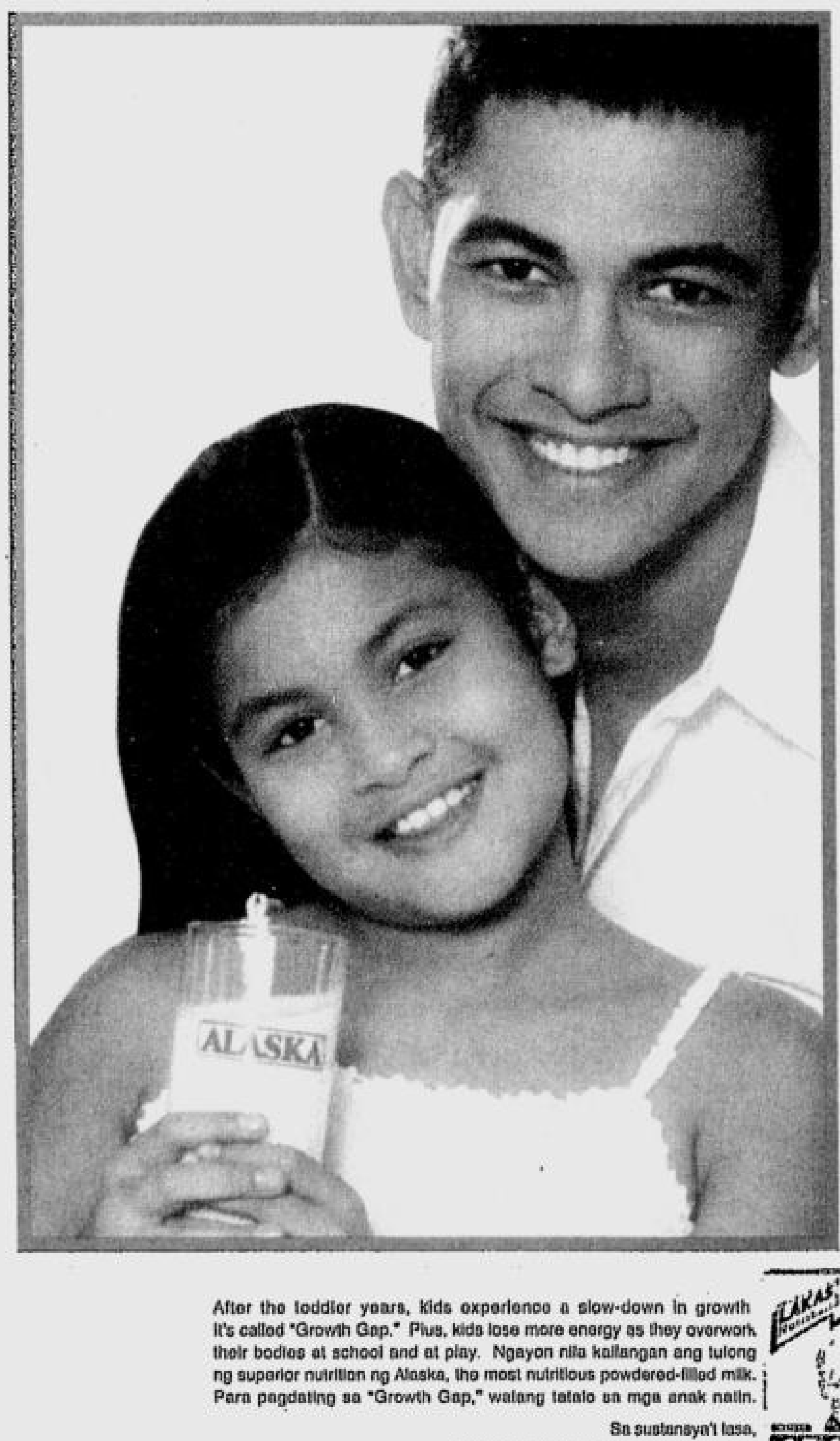
Following the success of last year's "Growth Gap" campaign, Alaska launches another advertising effort that centers around mothers and the way they shower their children with love. Entitled "Add Love", this campaign features longtime Alaska endorser, Sharon Cuneta, stepping into the role of a sympathetic mom, telling other moms to add a touch of Alaska to everyday food as part of their daily nutrition and as a way of expressing their love.

Through the years, Alaska has put its thrust not only on its own brand but also on the value of health and nutrition through its programs. With these efforts, it is not surprising that Alaska has and continues to retain its formidable place in the Philippine market.

ALASKA
ALASKA MILK CORPORATION
6:47 a.m.
ALASKA
Added nutrition to everyday food.

"What could be more important than generation gap? Growth Gap."

Gary Valenciano and daughter, Kiana, 8 yrs. old



After the toddler years, kids experience a slow-down in growth It's called "Growth Gap." Plus, kids lose more energy as they overwork their bodies at school and at play. Ngayon nila kailangan ang tulong ng superior nutrition ng Alaska, the most nutritious powdered-filled milk. Para pagdating sa "Growth Gap," walang tatalo sa mga anak natin.

Sa sustansya't lasa,
WALA PA RING TATALO SA ALASKA

ALASKA MILK CORPORATION: 30 YEARS AND BEYOND...MILK

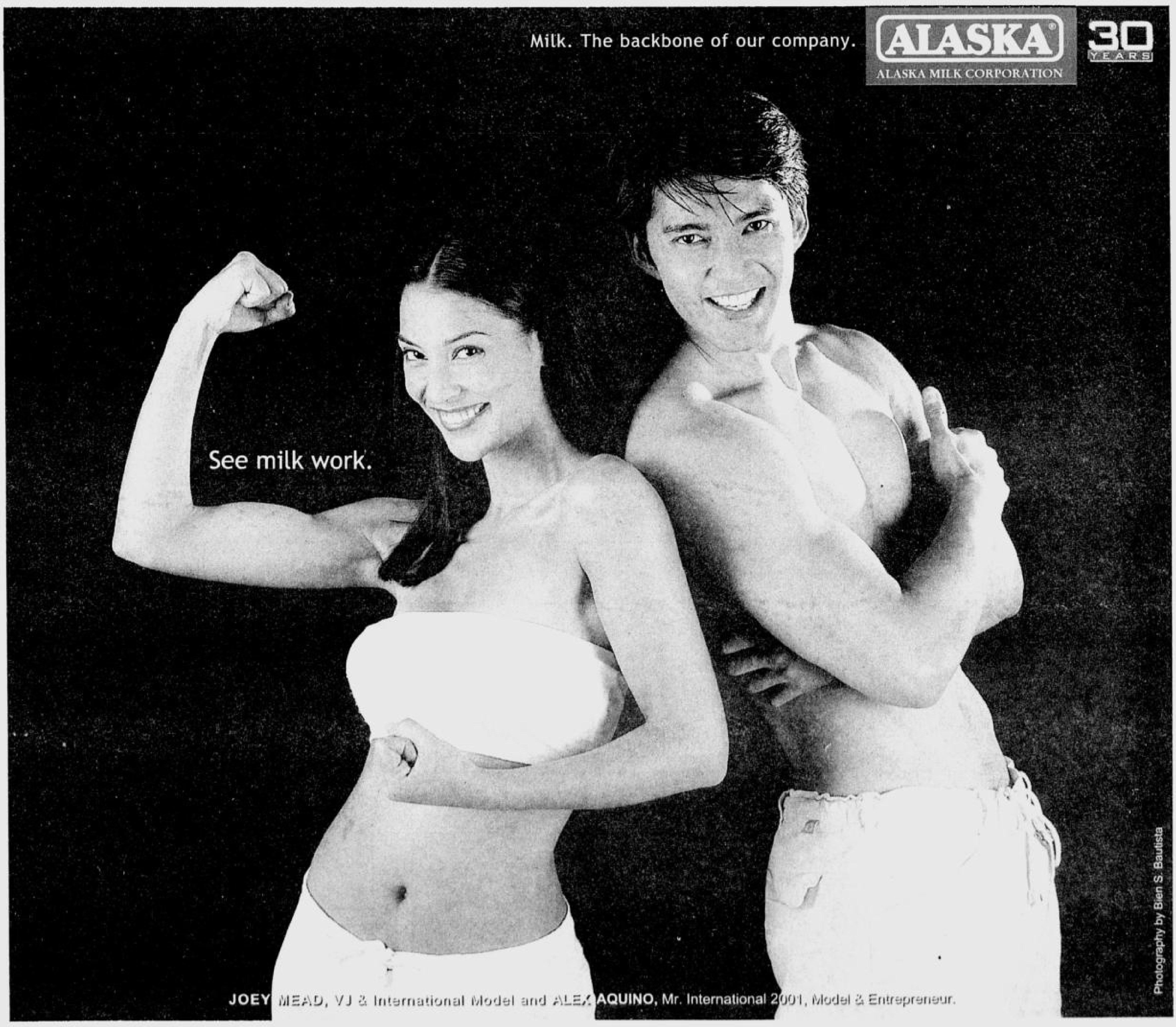
Since 1972, the Alaska brand has become synonymous with milk. This brand recognition that Alaska has built over the years serves as a platform for moving into better and more productive endeavours in the future.

One goal is to become not only the number one brand in milk, but also becoming a leading supplier to the food retail industry. As Alaska diversifies into other non-milk products in the future, it gathers strength from a strong emphasis on product quality, accessibility and awareness.

Distribution plays a key role in addressing the growing needs of the market. With increased accessibility and effective distribution, Alaska milk and non-milk products are sure to be foremost in the minds of consumers. Another factor that will help Alaska deal with next-generation consumers is its investment in Information Technology.

This will enable the company to facilitate its decision-making processes as well as allow it to be more proactive in answering the needs of its consumers. These objectives are attainable because the value of nutrition and the value of Alaska lie in the efforts of the men and women behind the company, with Wilfred Uytengsu, Sr. and Wilfred Steven Uytengsu, Jr. at the helm. Their commitment to delivering the message of health and nutrition to each and every Filipino home is more than a corporate vision...it is their passion.

ALASKA
Slim
Fresh
Choco
ALASKA Condensada


Milk. The backbone of our company.
ALASKA
ALASKA MILK CORPORATION
30 YEARS
See milk work.
JOEY MEAD, VJ & International Model and ALEX AQUINO, Mr. International 2001, Model & Entrepreneur.
Photography by Bien S. Bautista

BACKING UP ALASKA OVER THE YEARS

Deutsche Bank

Genpacco, Inc.

MACRO-LITE
TRADING CORPORATION

**Murray Goulburn
Co-operative Co.
Limited**

NZMP®
New Zealand...making it happen!

Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp.

***Prudential
Guarantee***

AD MORE POWER TO MILK: Our advertising partners

LOWE

TBWA\SANTIAGO MANGADA PUNO

ALL ASIAN COUNTERTRADE, INC.

CHENG-SHIN
GODAN
SAINT FONG
YUANROX
(TAIWAN, ROC)

**GLOBE
TELECOM**

Handyware®
PHILIPPINES
SINCE 1988

AN EYE ON WORLD MARKETS
Kemeny Asia Corporation
International Tinplate Service Center

You're in good hands with
METROBANK

PPI
PAPERCON (PHIL.) INC.

PHILCOCO TRADING
CORPORATION

SAN MIGUEL PACKAGING PRODUCTS

Tetra Pak

TRANS-ASIA (PHILS.)
MANUFACTURING CORPORATION

ComQuest

VITACHEM
INDUSTRIES